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Art on Main Street¹

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A LITTLE OVER a year ago a well-known news commentator published the following remark in a St. Paul newspaper: "On Summit Avenue between Snelling and the Cathedral I counted fourteen iron fences. There are hundreds more in St. Paul—some of them rusty, unsightly relics of an unbeautiful past. They do little good."² And under the slogan "De-fence for Defense," school children carefully surveyed the field, counted up more than five thousand iron fences, and prepared for the most gigantic Hallowe'en festival the city had ever seen. For some reason, fortunately—whether from conservative caution or simple inertia, I do not know—the match that thus was dropped did not start much of a conflagration, but the suggestion had significant possibilities.

Early in 1942 wreckers destroyed the stately old Emmett mansion on West Seventh Street in St. Paul. Why? There are always reasons for destruction just as there are reasons for conservation, but seldom are the two arguments actually weighed one against the other for a fair and intelligent decision. The fact is that this house, one of the first and finest examples of the classic revival in Minnesota, beauti-

¹ This is a revised version of a paper presented as the annual address before the ninety-fifth annual meeting of the Minnesota Historical Society, in the Historical Building, St. Paul, on January 10, 1944. It was followed by a series of slides depicting pioneer structures of old St. Paul and Minneapolis. Since financial considerations make it impossible to present the illustrations with the article, Professor Schmeckebier has added a few paragraphs to his original address, commenting on some of the pictures and presenting some of the conclusions reached. A few of the buildings illustrated are listed *post*, p. 56. *Ed.*

² *St. Paul Pioneer Press*, September 22, 1942.

ful in itself as well as rich in musical folklore and in local sentiment, was destroyed. Pathetic and fruitless attempts were made at the last minute to prevent the inevitable. But it is interesting to note that among the organizations which came to the defense of the old house was the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, not the Minnesota Historical Society.

While walking down Sherman Street, another St. Paul thoroughfare, some time ago, I noticed the tall Doric columns of a Greek revival house complete with prostyle cella, shallow peridrome, full entablature, frieze windows, and low-pitched roof, as recommended by the standard architectural handbooks of the nineteenth century.³ Its awkward position on a small lot at the very edge of the sidewalk indicated that it was not on the site for which it was originally built. Its dull gray paint, crumbling foundations, and general disheveled state suggested a slow process of disintegration that must have been going on for many decades.

Investigations by Miss Jean Anne Vincent on the early architecture of St. Paul reveal that this house was built by Daniel A. Robertson in 1854 and that it was originally located around the corner on Fort Street, now West Seventh Street, right next door to the Emmett house.⁴ Robertson's granddaughter, Mrs. Ralph Emerson of Milton, Massachusetts, has preserved a photograph of the house as it appeared in the early 1860's. The contrast between the house represented in the photograph and the present structure is significant from many points of view. What was once a dignified, elegantly proportioned mansion of solid American tradition, gleaming white in the midst of spacious lawns and tall elms, is now a broken derelict crowded into a slum area. The comfortable dining room, parlor, library, and bedrooms of this house once provided decent living quarters for one self-respecting family. Today no fewer than six families of more than average size occupy the same building.

So it is with many another monument that grew out of the social

³ See, for example, Asher Benjamin, *The Architect, or Practical House Carpenter* (Boston, 1850).

⁴ The Emmett house was built by Alpheus Fuller in 1854, and four years later it was acquired by Judge Lafayette Emmett. Miss Vincent discusses the Emmett and Robertson houses in an unpublished study of "Saint Paul Architecture, 1848-1906." A copy is in the library of the University of Minnesota.

and economic life of Minnesota. The corner in downtown St. Paul which once reflected the strong rugged pioneer character of the old Customhouse and Federal Courts Building now holds an obviously sanitary one-story Fanny Farmer store. After resisting its blighted surroundings for many years, the proud West Hotel of Minneapolis—still a good building and a work of art—was destroyed, to be succeeded by a filth-collecting parking lot. And Minnesota cities are not alone, but a part of the endless Main Street that stretches from Broadway to Wilshire Boulevard—a bizarre, colorful, neon-lighted panorama that seems to be constantly in flux. Examples of architecture and the other arts that are honestly conceived and honestly executed are indiscriminately torn down. Somehow there always remain gas stations that look like Oriental pagodas and hot-dog stands built in the shapes of Mexican hats and pussycats.

I cite these examples as characteristic of what is happening to art on Main Street. They are confined to architecture because it is perhaps the first and most important of the creative arts; likewise buildings are the most difficult and expensive to destroy. The pattern of cultural and historical irresponsibility will be found equally as vivid in the other indigenous arts. Examples of original design and execution are swept indiscriminately into attics, basements, second-hand stores, and warehouses, to be individually forgotten and finally destroyed in order to create storage space for more.

Thus we have a dilemma which has become almost standard for the last two generations. It seems dangerously close to the thinking that would destroy little pigs and plow under corn as a means of curing our economic ills. And yet one of our most eminent scholars in the history of art, while claiming that "Much of the task of higher education must always be to assure the student of his heritage in the past," recommends that we withhold consideration of an artist's work until he has been dead at least twenty years.⁵ Though not deliberately, the advice seems to have been followed, and the indiscriminate wrecking of our regional artistic production—the good along with the bad—has been the result.

⁵ Frank Jewett Mather, Jr., "Old Art or New," in the *College Art Journal*, 1:31 (January, 1942).

What can we as individuals do about it? Well, we can protest. I have tried, as certainly many of you have, and I find one easily gets himself into trouble. When I questioned the impending destruction of one of the older university buildings, a prominent architect remarked that the average life of a modern building is only about twenty years, and that a building when it has outlived its usefulness should be destroyed.

To a leading Minneapolis businessman, who is also a public-spirited citizen and a popular patron of the arts, I protested the imminent destruction of the West Hotel and asked whether, through his influential friends, something could not be done about it. He conceded its historic and aesthetic value to the Northwest, but flatly closed the discussion with the statement that the building did not pay, taxes were high, and it was out-of-date anyway. Did the Palace of Versailles pay? Was Santa Sophia allowed to live for only twenty years? Now that many churches of Mexico presumably have outlived their usefulness, are they destroyed? Our architectural monuments are not the great masterpieces of European art history, their prestige is not established by volumes of critical literature, but, like our ancestors, they are ours and should be viewed with comparable pride and compassion.

The argument of the practical man that these buildings are no longer functional is not the fault of the work of art, but of that same practical man. The blighted areas—like the taxes—are man-made. The intelligent understanding and utilization of a building from the standpoint of its own intended function is one means of maintaining the confidence, perspective, and equilibrium which only the study of history—of the arts as well as of politics and the like—can give.

How often have you heard the remark that a building may be all right, but that it is hardly beautiful! The history of art in Minnesota, as in any other region, reveals many different concepts of beauty which often completely contradict one another, granted the single and all-important premise that to be beautiful the design of a work of art must be well conceived and equally well executed. Such concepts may range in importance from superficial whims of taste to

genuine expressions of what one can call "style." They may conform to what we call beautiful today, or they may not. They constitute, nevertheless, a part of what we are today. Understanding them may help us somewhat in the difficult task of understanding ourselves.

Traditionally, art critics are not wanting in self-confidence. But when we the public see examples of the older local arts on Main Street referred to as "unsightly relics of an unbeautiful past," we might doubt some of the convictions we have grown up with or have worked out for ourselves. Let us look back to see what the people themselves said about the houses they were building or saw going up about them.

In 1857 the *Falls Evening News* of St. Anthony published an article describing the new home of Dr. Alfred E. Ames, which was situated on the sloping ground overlooking Minneapolis and the Falls of St. Anthony. It was built in the "Grecian style," according to the article, with "beauty and symmetry" both within and without, and with "none of the awkward and ponderous massiveness that hangs around the old castles of the Rhine."⁶

Three years later a St. Paul newspaper described as follows Bishop Thomas L. Grace's new residence on Sixth Street in that city: "In all the essential elements of durability, convenience and architectural finish it is, perhaps, ahead of any other building in Minnesota. . . . The splendid cupola on the top of the main building, the cornices and all the wood work on the outside of the building corresponding in finish and color with the stone work, present an appearance of elegant architectural completeness which reflects great credit on the mind that conceived as well as on the hands that executed it. . . . Such buildings not only add beauty and grace to our utilitarian city, but convey to strangers an exalted idea of the architectural taste and refinement of our citizens, and we hope those who contemplate erecting good residences next season may profit by and if possible improve upon the example."⁷

In following the records, one will find many aesthetic ideals in direct competition, with the eventual conquest of one ideal by an-

⁶ *Falls Evening News* (St. Anthony and Minneapolis), October 2, 1857.

⁷ *Pioneer and Democrat* (St. Paul), November 25, 1860.

other as art on Main Street developed. When the simple Grecian plan began to give way to more elaborate designs, a St. Paul newspaper, with some self-consciousness, described the Horace Thompson home as "one of the finest residences in the city," adding that "it is of the irregular Italian villa style; the tall and graceful tower overlooking the city, and giving a view of the river for miles below."⁸

The ideal of the Tuscan villa, in contrast to the older Grecian style, is described in one of the handbooks on architecture which were popularly used by builders and architects of the mid-century: "It will be at once perceived that while this mode retains much of the expression of the Grecian style, it has far more variety, and a much more domestic character than the former. The characteristic quality of the purest specimens of Grecian architecture is *elegant simplicity*, and it is a quality which is most appropriately displayed in a temple. On the other hand we should say that the characteristic quality of the modern Italian buildings is *elegant variety*, which is most fitly exhibited in a tasteful villa. The great simplicity of the form of the first is highly suited to a temple, where singleness of purpose to which it is devoted appears symbolized in the simple Oneness of the whole edifice. The irregularity of the second is equally in unison with the variety of wants, occupations and pleasures which compose the routine of domestic life."⁹

The personality of the owner is not ignored in these pioneer mansions. The square plan was recommended as most suitable for "the man of common sense views."¹⁰ Indeed, more than once the character and personality of a man was reflected in the home he built. Thus Henry H. Sibley's mansion on Woodward Avenue in St. Paul is described by his biographer as "massive and solid, quadrangular form, two stories high, surmounted by a cupola. . . . The ground on which it rests has a frontage of three hundred and thirty-three feet, running back two hundred and twenty feet, the whole beauti-

⁸ *Pioneer and Democrat*, November 25, 1860. Pictures of the Thompson, Emmett, and Sibley houses are among the illustrations appearing with an article by Evadene Burris Swanson on "Building the Frontier Home," *ante*, 15:45, 52.

⁹ Andrew J. Downing, *Cottage Residences*, 145 (New York, 1853).

¹⁰ Andrew J. Downing, *The Architecture of Country Houses*, 262 (New York, 1851).

fied with the waving foliage of the oak, the maple, and the box-elder, rows of magnificent and stately elms lining the sidewalk, distant from which the mansion stands nearly one hundred feet, embowered within the arbored ground, and accessible by paved and graveled walks." The *Chicago Times* described Sibley's home as "the result of an evolution from the original shanty which he saw erected on the present site of the city, and, like himself, the perfected development of an original product which, at first, was planted in the crude soil of a savage wilderness."¹¹

The understanding of the beautiful in the art of Main Street can best be developed from the ideals and judgments of those who conceived and experienced it as a part of their total existence. From the quotations cited herewith, it is apparent that the owners of the houses described were by no means incapable of aesthetic judgment, and their opinions were not based primarily on whether or not a building paid.

By calling attention to those "unsightly relics of an unbeautiful past," perhaps we are falling prey to the senseless adoration of things just because they are old — the antique-hunters' disease. Maybe the gaudy color and shiny tin that has been nailed onto the front of the corner saloon to make it look modern improves it. But there are two phases of modern art that all of you are well aware of — the flashy color and slick design that can be counted on to pay commercially, and the less appealing but more honest emphasis on essentials. Architects have written, preached, and even begged that people should build according to their needs and within the limitations of available material in order to make their homes honest as well as attractive.

Most of us think of the architect Frank Lloyd Wright as a handsome little man with flowing white hair, who has a genius for insulting people as well as for building beautiful houses to suit himself for other people to live in. Yet no one man has done more to awaken in the minds of intelligent people, both in modern America and in the world at large, an interest in the essentials of architecture — ma-

¹¹ Nathaniel West, *The Ancestry, Life, and Times of Hon. Henry Hastings Sibley*, 420 (St. Paul, 1889). West quotes the *Chicago Times* of January 30, 1886.

terials, forms, spaces, and their integration into an organic whole. He often speaks of materials for instance as an artistic resource and, with his characteristic flair for expression, refers to each as having a language of its own: "Each material has its own message and to the creative artist, its own song." Stone, he declares, "is a solid material: heavy, durable and most grateful for, and so most effective in masses. A 'massive' material we say; so, the nobler the masses the better."¹² It's the craftsman speaking here, a craftsman whose creative imagination is fired by the intrinsic character and artistic manipulation of a given material. Did you ever look over the early buildings of Minnesota—those still standing—simply as stone or wood well handled? If you have, I think you will agree with the good Scandinavian craftsmen we so highly prize in this community: "That's a good piece of work."

And so, in dealing with everyday art on that mythical yet painfully realistic Main Street, we encounter the practical problems of structural form, utility, and beauty. They are not new, but have remained paramount in the theoretical literature from Vitruvius, who formulated the ancient admonition for architecture, "habeatur ratio firmitatis, utilitatis, venustatis," down to the protagonists of genuine architecture today.¹³

It was my hope that some of the photographs of Minnesota's artistic monuments which I used as illustrations with this address might be published. They were not used merely as illustrations, but as examples of strikingly beautiful works of art that have been lost by sheer neglect or willful destruction as well as of some of the fine buildings that have been preserved.

I showed, for instance, an old photograph, from the Minnesota Historical Society's collection, of Sibley's Mendota house in a pathetic state of ruin and neglect. As I compared the building shown in this picture with the clean, sturdy, and inspiring structure we see today, I remarked that I had no idea whether or not it "paid," but

¹² Frank Lloyd Wright, *On Architecture: Selected Writings, 1894-1940*, 112, 126 (New York, 1941).

¹³ Vitruvius, *The Ten Books of Architecture*, book 1, chapter 3, section 2.

that certainly the people of Minnesota had profited immeasurably by its preservation as a cultural monument. Later a member of the audience informed me that the Sibley House, which is maintained as a museum by the Minnesota Daughters of the American Revolution, actually does pay, and that it has attracted tourists from all parts of the country. I have often wondered whether our historic monuments could not be as successful as our state fairs, winter carnivals, and summer aquatennials, if the same creative effort were put into their promotion.

Among other pioneer houses that still survive in excellent state of preservation are those of Governor Alexander Ramsey on Walnut and Exchange streets and of Isaac Wright on Walnut Street, both in St. Paul. It is particularly fortunate that the Ramsey house still has its original iron fence and handsome gateway, just as they were when the house was finished in 1872. The picture I showed revealed a number of the artistic qualities which the designers and craftsmen sought to emphasize. If the iron fence and gate had been destroyed, much of the beauty and stateliness of the mansion would be lost. The actual photographs of the Robertson house as it appeared in the 1860's and as it is now revealed a contrast that was indeed startling. I think the audience agreed with me in my belief that this stately old home would have been a cultural asset to the city if it had been preserved as it was originally. At the time the Emmett house was destroyed, it was estimated that the investment of a thousand dollars in repairs and taxes would have saved it.

Good photographs can do a great deal to emphasize certain artistic qualities in a building that we ordinarily do not notice. I showed a number of unusual views of the Church of the Assumption in St. Paul, which to my mind is one of the finest architectural monuments in the city. With the superb workmanship and texture of its stone, I contrasted the impressive board and batten structure of another St. Paul building, the old Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd, which is still standing on Cedar and Twelfth streets and is now used as a shop by the Goodwill Industries.

These buildings can still be seen on the Main streets of Minnesota communities, but there are many more that have been irrepa-

rably lost. I do not advocate the preservation of these monuments simply because they are old and quaint, nor because they may originally have cost a great deal of money. The museum of the historical society treasures an old painting of the Chapel of St. Paul. It was a pitifully humble structure, built of oak and tamarack logs. Father Galtier described that log church in a letter of January 14, 1864, addressed to Bishop Grace; he said that it "would well remind one of the stable of Bethlehem," and he recalled that on November 1, 1841, he "blessed the new basilica, smaller, indeed, than the Basilica of St. Paul in Rome, but as well adapted as the latter for prayer and love to arise therein from pious hearts."¹⁴

If that log church were preserved today—in reality rather than in a painting—would it not still serve the same purpose? Certainly it would; likewise it would help us to appreciate the power of our spiritual and cultural heritage, as well as to realize the material accomplishments that make up America today.

¹⁴ A. McNulty, "The Chapel of St. Paul," in *Acta et Dicta*, 1:65 (July, 1907).

Campaigning with the First Minnesota

A Civil War Diary

Edited by Hazel C. Wolf

ISAAC LYMAN TAYLOR was teaching school in Fulton County, Illinois, when the news of the fall of Fort Sumter raced through the land and sent governors speeding to telegraph offices to offer President Lincoln regiments for use in suppressing the rebellion. In Washington, Minnesota's governor, Alexander Ramsey, hurried to the war department to urge Secretary Simon Cameron to accept a thousand Minnesotans; in St. Paul, Lieutenant Governor Ignatius Donnelly called for a regiment of ten companies;¹ in western Illinois young "Ike" Taylor wrestled with the question of immediate enlistment.

Born at Rowe in Franklin County, Massachusetts, on January 23, 1837, Isaac Taylor was the fourth of Alvira Johnson and Jonathan Hastings Taylor's thirteen children. The Taylors lived in Lawrence County, New York, from 1840 until the early 1850's. Then the father journeyed to Illinois, selected a farm in Fulton County, and arranged for the completion of a house before taking his family to the new location. When they arrived in May, 1853, however, their house was far from finished—so far, in fact, that Jonathan set out to find a temporary shelter for his household.² Displaying traditional pioneer hospitality, the neighbor from whom he had purchased the land invited the Taylors to share his roof.

In later years the young Taylors declared that they had never enjoyed themselves so much as they did while living with their new

¹ For a discussion of Minnesota's tender of troops for service in the Civil War, see William W. Folwell, *A History of Minnesota*, 2:76-79 (St. Paul, 1924).

² Dates and other items of information about the Taylor family are drawn from a list prepared by Mrs. Jonathan H. Taylor on October 18, 1867, now among the Taylor Papers in the possession of Miss Emma R. Taylor of Avon, Illinois, a niece of Isaac and Henry. Unless otherwise designated, the letters cited hereafter are in this collection. With the Taylor Papers also is an issue of the *Cass County Democrat* of Harrisonville, Missouri, for December 26, 1907, which contains some family data. Although the Taylor farm was in Fulton County, the family received mail through the post office at Prairie City in McDonough County. See *post*, p. 20.

neighbor in Illinois. Since both families were large, there was not nearly room enough for all to sit at table for meals. Hence the men and boys lined up around the room, while the women and girls occupied what chairs there were. At night the men piled quilts and comforters on the floor and the women occupied the family sleeping quarters in the loft. The children of both families viewed with regret the Taylors' removal to their own home.³

Isaac spent his childhood and young manhood on the Illinois prairie. He helped with the farming, joined in community outings, attended "singing school" and church gatherings, and altogether enjoyed the companionship of the large family which by 1849 numbered nine boys and three girls. Isaac's favorite from among them all was Patrick Henry, who was just one year his junior and was known to the family as "Henry" or "P. H."

Isaac and Henry Taylor enjoyed educational advantages unusual for Midwestern farm boys in the nineteenth century. Both were graduated from an academy at Prairie City in McDonough County, Illinois, and both continued their studies in Burlington University, a school established by the Baptist church in Burlington, Iowa. At eighteen, Isaac entered the advanced class of the "shorter scientific course" offered by the university's "gentlemen's department." He was among the first students admitted to the school, which opened in 1854, attending during parts of 1855, 1856, and 1858. Upon completing his work, he returned to Fulton County to teach in Lee Township. Henry attended Burlington University during parts of 1858 and 1859. When he finished his course in the latter year, he removed to Belle Prairie on the upper Mississippi in Morrison County, Minnesota, teaching there and in the near-by settlements of Bellevue and Little Falls before the outbreak of the Civil War.⁴

³ Interview with Miss Taylor, September 12, 1943.

⁴ For an account of Burlington University, which was established by the Iowa Baptist State Association, see Augustine M. Antrobus, *History of Des Moines County, Iowa*, 1:178-180 (Chicago, 1915). Isaac Taylor's name appears among those of students listed in the school's second and third *Annual Catalogs*, for the years 1855-56 and 1856-57. In addition to teaching in Minnesota, Henry made a trip to the Red River settlements in the summer of 1860. Emma ——— to Isaac Taylor, April 16, 1858; A. Judson Taylor to Sarah Taylor, September 25, 1859; *Little Falls Daily Transcript*, August 17, 1906; *Cass County Democrat*, December 26, 1907.

Henry's removal to Minnesota was only one in a long chain of events which eventually resulted in both his and Isaac's identification with the First Minnesota Volunteer Infantry. About thirty years earlier his father's sister, Elizabeth Taylor, had left the family home in the East to teach in the mission school at Mackinac. There she had married another mission teacher, Frederick Ayer. Together they taught at several missions and in 1849 established a school for the Chippewa at Belle Prairie. Hence the Taylor children had heard much of Minnesota and of "Aunt Ayer," who traveled east to procure funds and teachers and solicited both among her relatives. Taylors both east and west had responded with contributions of money and school furnishings and several removed to Belle Prairie to participate in the project. Before Henry went, Mrs. Lucy Taylor Hamilton, a widowed sister of Mrs. Ayer and Jonathan Taylor, left Vermont and, with her son Samuel, removed to Belle Prairie. Near the Ayer establishment Samuel farmed, while his mother managed a boardinghouse for mission teachers. Shortly thereafter, young Jonathan, second of the Taylor boys, left his Illinois home for Minnesota. There he and a Massachusetts cousin, Edward Taylor, engaged in farming. Hence, when Henry joined Edward's household in 1859 he found himself a member of a sizeable community of relatives.⁶ During the months that followed the brothers corresponded regularly. Henry remained in Minnesota until he enlisted in 1861.

A few days after President Lincoln's call for troops, Governor Ramsey announced that his were the first men accepted; Donnelly watched the enlistment rolls grow as war meetings in St. Paul, Minneapolis, Winona, Stillwater, Faribault, Red Wing, Mankato, and other places roused the state's young men; Isaac Taylor sought his brother Henry's advice on joining the army. Hence, while in late April the initial companies of the First Minnesota assembled at old Fort Snelling and organized for duty in the volunteer service of the United States, the two Taylors, destined for service with the regi-

⁶ "Frederick Ayer, Teacher and Missionary to the Ojibway Indians," in *Minnesota Historical Collections*, 6:430-436. Members of the Ayer and Taylor families who were living at Belle Prairie in 1860 are listed in the population schedules of the manuscript census of Morrison County for that year, in the custody of the Minnesota Historical Society.

ment, discussed by mail the family and personal problems involved in their enrollment.⁶

During the early weeks of the war, the First Minnesota rapidly filled its ranks. The state supplied clothing, guns, and camping facilities. The men encamped and drilled at Fort Snelling, and in May some of them began garrison duty in the frontier forts to release the regular army detachments for service near Washington. Members of the regiment, however, made known their disappointment at the prospect of being denied service in the South. Approving their preference, Governor Ramsey set about getting the First Minnesota transferred to the national Capital.

In the meantime Isaac and Henry Taylor awaited an opportunity to join some military company. On May 4, Henry, still at Belle Prairie, wrote to Isaac, at home in Illinois, "Yours of the 23^d ult. came to hand a few minutes since. We are not sufficient in no.s here to form a military co. or I, too, should enlist to try what I could do for the 'Stars & Stripes' of which I hope to be ever proud. If you can do anything—go ahead. . . . Some from here have gone 20 miles to enlist & then could not from the fact that Min. has more ready now than have been called for. If I am wanted by & bye I shall go, I think, if my eye don't prevent."

In a childhood accident, Henry had lost the sight of one eye, but despite this handicap he found an opportunity to enlist. On a journey from Little Falls to St. Cloud, he met Anson Northup, who was soliciting enlistments for the First Minnesota. This was a chance for which Henry had not even hoped. Without further ado he signed up, settled what affairs he could at Belle Prairie, left others to his brother Jonathan, resigned his school at Little Falls, and reported at Fort Snelling. From there, ten days later, he notified his family in Illinois of his enlistment and whereabouts.⁷

Still Isaac had taken no action. He remained at home while Henry wrote of camping and drilling at Fort Snelling, of departing

⁶P. H. to Isaac Taylor, May 4, 1861. On the organization of the First Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, see *Minnesota in the Civil and Indian Wars*, 1:1-7, 79, 2:1-9, 13-16, 19 (St. Paul, 1891, 1899); *History of the First Regiment Minnesota Volunteer Infantry*, 1-31 (Stillwater, 1916); Folwell, *Minnesota*, 2:79-83.

⁷The letter is dated May 31, 1861. See also *Minnesota in the Civil and Indian Wars*, 1:57.

for Fort Ripley, and finally, after the regiment was assigned to service in the South, of leaving for Washington. Shortly thereafter Isaac packed his trunk and left to take his brother's teaching position in Minnesota. His aunts and cousins welcomed him as he established himself in the home of "Aunt Hamilton."⁸

But Isaac was not content. All around him was talk of the war; Henry's letters only made him more restless. Before long he was sure he could not go back to a prosaic schoolroom. On August 21, therefore, he went to Fort Snelling and enlisted in Company E of the First Minnesota, the same unit that Henry had joined three months earlier. On September 12, with thirty-one other recruits in charge of Major Alexander Wilkin of the Second Minnesota, he started on the four-day journey to Washington.⁹

Upon arriving in the Capital, Isaac did a bit of sight-seeing. "The whole country for miles around is white with tents," he wrote home. "I went up on the Capitol this afternoon & had a fine view of Arlington highths & the Federal camps on the other side of the Potomac. I also took a squint at the 'Secesh' through a telescope. I saw distinctly the Rebel pickets on Munson's Hill beyond Arlington Highths I could see horses tied to trees & the Seceshers walking about as crack as though they were not going to be awfully licked one of these days."¹⁰ From Washington the recruits went to join the regiment at Camp Stone, thirty-five miles northwest of Washington, where the First Minnesota had been posted with other regiments to check possible Confederate movements above the Capital.

During eighteen months of his Civil War service, Isaac kept the diary published herewith. He did not begin the first volume, however, until New Year's Day of 1862. Before his record opens, the First Minnesota participated in at least two major engagements—

⁸P. H. Taylor to his family, May 31, June 21, 1861; to Sarah Taylor, August 27, 1863. All the Taylor boys wrote to Sarah, their eldest sister, even more frequently than they did to their parents. The letters addressed to her have been a valuable source of information in the editing of the diary.

⁹Isaac to Sarah Taylor, September 16, 1861; Mrs. Elizabeth T. Ayer to Jonathan Taylor, Sr., October 28, 1861; *Minnesota in the Civil and Indian Wars*, 1: 57; *St. Paul Pioneer and Democrat*, September 12, 13, 1861; First Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, "Annual Report," 1861, Minnesota Adjutant General's Archives, in the custody of the Minnesota Historical Society.

¹⁰Isaac to Sarah Taylor, September 16, 1861.

the disastrous defeats at Bull Run and at Ball's Bluff. Henry took part in the former and both boys participated in the latter. Although their regiment was not among the forces half slaughtered at Ball's Bluff, it stood ready to assist from Edward's Ferry, four miles below. After the campaign Isaac wrote to his brother Jonathan: "We had a pretty tough time of it. It rained considerable & my feet were wet nearly the entire three days we staid in Va. In addition to the wet & cold we had to pole boats all one night as tight as we could jump into it in order to get between 6 & 8 thousand men out of the clutches of the Secesh."¹¹

After the Edward's Ferry episode, the First Minnesota returned to its old camp between Poolesville and Edward's Ferry. Camp Stone, named for General Charles P. Stone, who commanded the division to which the Minnesota regiment was attached, was in one of the most beautiful sections of Maryland. There even Southern sympathizers were kind and friendly to Union soldiers. The federal government provided clothing, pay came regularly, and a sutler arrived. The men built comfortable living quarters for the approaching winter, erected cookshacks and bake ovens, drew rations of flour instead of hardtack, and bought corn to improve and vary their fare. There was plenty of food and very little illness.

Camp routine included daily drills and picket duty along the Potomac. Three companies at a time went out on guard, the men putting their knapsacks with two day's rations in a wagon and marching to Edward's Ferry, headquarters for all guards. There they were distributed among posts about half a mile apart, six or seven men at a place. At the Ferry, besides the guard, twenty or thirty reserves would remain. In most places the river was only about a quarter of a mile wide and trees and bushes on either side sheltered pickets from the foe. Since the Confederates performed similar service across the river, loyalists and rebels sometimes conversed across the stream and even took pot shots at one another. The regiment

¹¹ Isaac to Jonathan Taylor, Jr., October 29, 1861; P. H. to Sarah Taylor, October 26, 1861. For accounts of the First Minnesota's participation in the battles of Bull Run and Ball's Bluff, see *Minnesota in the Civil and Indian Wars*, 1:8-16, 2:48. A firsthand description of the regiment's experiences at Bull Run is to be found in letters written by Charles E. Goddard to his mother, July 30, August 12, September 6, 1861, in the Orrin F. Smith Papers, in the possession of the Minnesota Historical Society.

remained at Camp Stone from late October of 1861 until the opening of the Shenandoah Valley campaign on February 25, 1862.¹²

The diary herewith presented is contained in three closely written, leather-bound volumes, giving Isaac Taylor's detailed recital of his life in the Union Army from January 1, 1862, until his death at Gettysburg on July 2, 1863. Attempts to locate an earlier diary, which Henry believed his brother kept, have thus far proved futile. The fact that the diaries are numbered 1, 2, and 3, however, seems to indicate that Isaac did not begin his day-by-day record until several months after his enlistment. The three available volumes are in the possession of the diarist's nephew and namesake, Mr. Isaac L. Taylor of Elmwood, Illinois, who placed them at the disposal of the editor and gave the Minnesota Historical Society permission to copy and publish them. A copy of the diary, made by Mary Taylor, is owned by her daughter, Mrs. Ana King Dubach of Kansas City.¹³

Preserved with the diaries are a number of mementos, each recalling an interest or an incident in the soldier's life. Two stained and yellowed clippings, evidently from church publications, detail respectively the provisions of the 1863 Conscription Act and the naval strength of the Union in western waters. A clipping from a Philadelphia paper gives the 1861 report of the secretary of war. A tintype of an attractive girl was found by Isaac on the battlefield of Fredricksburg. He told Henry that he had the girl's name and address and that he might write to her some time to "let her know where she was." Another tintype, a picture of a small child, was also probably lost by a soldier. A third picture is a Matthew Brady photograph of Lieutenant James H. Shepley of Isaac's company. In the last diary several leaves and flowers have been pressed and on one page a flattened flower has each petal labelled with a letter to spell out "From My Maryland." The date, June 27, 1863, just five days before Isaac's death, is worked into the center. A small map of the United States, creased and worn, bears the endorsement of both Isaac and Henry.¹⁴

¹² *Minnesota in the Civil and Indian Wars*, 1:13, 16; *History of the First Minnesota*, 59-65, 80-83.

¹³ P. H. to Sarah Taylor, August 27, 1863. A diary kept by Henry is mentioned in his correspondence with his family, but it has not been located.

¹⁴ P. H. to Sarah Taylor, August 27, September 26, 1863.

Six of the nine Taylor boys served with the Union forces in the Civil War. The family agreed that Russell, the eldest, must remain at home to work on the farm. Jonathan, the second son, served with the Second Minnesota Battery of Light Artillery from March 21, 1862, to August 27, 1863. On December 20, 1861, Judson joined Company K of the Eleventh Illinois Cavalry. He became a corporal before his death at Vicksburg on December 1, 1864. Danford became a second lieutenant in Company D of the Twelfth Illinois Cavalry, and served from January 1, 1862, until the end of the war. Samuel, father of the present owner of the diary and of Miss Emma R. Taylor, served with the 102nd Illinois Infantry from August 21, 1862, until June 6, 1865.¹⁵ The members of the present generation of the Taylor family have been gracious, kind, and helpful in assisting the editor to gather information about the Taylor Diary and the people with whose lives it deals. Miss Taylor has been particularly tireless in searching out material.

Although Isaac Taylor's Civil War diary has never before been published, it was used freely by Lieutenant William Lochren of Company E, who contributed the "Narrative of the First Regiment" to the history of *Minnesota in the Civil and Indian Wars* published in 1890. Incidentally, Lochren served on the board of commissioners who planned the volume. In an introductory paragraph Lochren notes that he "received great aid in preparing this work . . . from the full and well-written diary kept by Isaac L. Taylor of Company E, up to the morning of the day on which he was killed in the charge of the regiment at Gettysburg, supplemented from that time by his brother, Capt. P. H. Taylor." Some passages in the printed narrative are almost direct quotations from the diary. The copy made by Mary Taylor may have been intended for Lochren's use, for in a letter of September 26, 1863, to his sister Sarah, Henry warned her to "Tell Mary if Isaac says anything disrespectful of . . . *Lieut. Lochren* to *omit* it as he will *review* it." It seems likely that Lochren obtained one set of the little books from Henry, who re-enlisted and

¹⁵ *Minnesota in the Civil and Indian Wars*, 1:668; Adjutant-General of the State of Illinois, *Reports for the Years 1861-66*, 5:601, 8:316, 343 (Springfield, 1901); P. H. Taylor to his parents, April 4, 1865.

taught for a time after the war in the post school located at Fort Snelling.¹⁶

In the editing of the diary, the original form has been closely followed. Taylor's spelling, capitalization, and punctuation have been reproduced throughout. Whenever possible, the editor has supplied the full names of people mentioned in the diary, using brackets to indicate the portions supplied. In most of his entries, the author used ditto marks to indicate the month; in the interest of readability, the months in such cases have been supplied in brackets. Most of the entries consist of single paragraphs. The author, however, frequently included marginal notations—evidently afterthoughts added as he reread his remarks. Such notations have been copied as separate paragraphs at the ends of the entries with which they appear. Several lists appearing on the final pages of the manuscript volumes have been omitted from the published work. There Isaac enumerated articles of clothing and supplies issued to him and items purchased from the sutler, recorded some personal accounts, listed relatives and friends in various army units, and kept a record of his correspondents, usually mentioning by initials only those to whom he wrote or from whom he received letters.

¹⁶ *Minnesota in the Civil and Indian Wars*, 1:1. After the expiration of his three-year term of enlistment, Henry spent ten months as a civilian at Belle Prairie. On March 4, 1865, he re-enlisted with the recently established Veteran Reserve Corps, an organization of volunteers who had seen at least two years of service. A former colonel of the First Minnesota, George N. Morgan, was the immediate superior who assigned Henry to the teaching post at Fort Snelling. For conducting classes six hours a day for five days a week he received, in addition to his regular pay of sixteen dollars a month, twenty cents a week for each of his forty-four pupils. He had no other duties and enjoyed considerable freedom. Shortly before the close of the war he received his commission as captain. When he was mustered out in 1866, Henry returned to Fulton County, Illinois, and in the following year he removed to the vicinity of Harrisonville, Missouri, where he engaged in farming and teaching, helped to organize an insurance company, and was elected associate judge of the county court. He died in 1907. See P. H. to Sarah Taylor, March 16, April 4, 17, December 22, 1864; to his parents, March 27, April 4, 1865; *Cass County Democrat*, December 26, 1907; undated clippings, including one from the *National Tribune* of Washington, D. C., Taylor Papers; *The War of the Rebellion: A Compilation of the Official Records of the Union and Confederate Armies*, series 1, vol. 42, pt. 3, p. 728. The latter work, a set of 133 volumes published by the war department between 1880 and 1902, will be cited hereafter as *Official Records*.

THE DIARY OF ISAAC LYMAN TAYLOR,
JANUARY 1, 1862-JULY 2, 1863

Diary No. 1

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN.

MR. SECESH;

Please forward this diary to J. H. Taylor, Prairie City, McDonough Co., Illinois. By so doing you will exhibit your magnanimity, accommodativeness & divers other virtues, besides conferring no small favor on a defunct individual.

Yours truly,

I. L. TAYLOR

High Private of Co. E

1st. Reg. Minn. Vol.

CAMP STONE, MD. Jan. 1st. 1862

Wed. Jan. 1st. 1862. At Camp Stone, H'd Quarters of 1st. Reg. Minn. Vols., Montgomery Co., Md., two miles from Edward's Ferry. A regular Indian summer day. The New Year smiles so bewitchingly & bounds so gleefully into the arena of time, that I suspect he has not yet heard of our civil dissension nor seen the black clouds that hang over the political prospects of the country which he visits. Building log camps for winter quarters.

Went on picket at Edward's Ferry this evening.

Thur. Jan. 2d. On picket at Edward's Ferry. Cool & strong wind last night. Pleasant during the day though somewhat cool. The Secesh are throwing up a new earth-work upriver from Leesburg & farther back than their work below Leesburg. They have been as busy as bees all day throwing up their dirt piles in order to give us a warm reception when we make them a visit.

Fri. [January] 3d. Pretty cold breeze last night. Cool throughout the day. Flag of truce crossed the river twice this A.M., borne by a Lieut. of Mass. 15th., accompanied by four Min. boys of Co. E, as boatmen. The Lieut. brought back a bundle of papers & letters. The rebel officers proposed to release, unconditionally, two prisoners wounded at Ball's Bluff. A secesh Lieut. says to one of our boys, "Right smart o' cold here — a heap colder than in Mississippi." Storming this evening — half way between snow & rain. Ground getting white.

Sat. Jan. 4th. Snowed a little early this morning. $\frac{1}{8}$ of an inch

snow. Relieved by Co. G this A.M. The coldest day we have had this winter. The cold wind gives a perceptible tingle to a fellows unprotected ear. Sa[u]nders' Co. of Sharp-Shooters took passage on canal for Hancock, 97 miles up river.¹⁷

Sun. [January] 5th. Pretty cool though tolerably warm at midday. In camp all day reading & writing. Charles S[c]heffer, Sec'y of Treasury for Min. & allotment agent, called on business this A.M.¹⁸ Snowing this evening.

Mon. [January] 6th. About 1½ inches snow this morning. Cool weather. Went to Poole[s]ville this A.M. Brig. Gen. [Willis A.] Gorman is now in command of this division, Gen. [Charles P.] Stone having gone to Washington.¹⁹ Potomac frozen over in places to day.

Wed. Jan. 8th. Drill both in A.M. & P.M. Cool & pleasant. Thawing at M. Drizzling rain this evening. Subscribed for stencil plate.

Thur. [January] 9 Ground is icy this morning & weather more moderate than last evening. Cloudy in A.M. Clear & warm & very muddy in P.M. Several boats, among them two steam tugs, arrived at Ed's Ferry from below. No drill Raining moderately this evening.

Fri. [January] 10 Rained considerably last night. Streams swollen. Very muddy. Rather moderate. No drill but dress parade. B. B. Aldrich appointed corporal vice. O. D. Thatcher, reduced to the ranks (upon recommendation of his Co. commander) by order of Col. [Napoleon J. T.] Dana.²⁰

¹⁷ Captain John Saunders was the officer in charge of the First Company of Massachusetts Sharpshooters. See *Official Records*, series 1, vol. 19, pt. 1, p. 173. The canal was the Chesapeake and Ohio, which is located on a map in James Truslow Adams, ed., *Atlas of American History*, 107 (New York, 1943).

¹⁸ Scheffer was state treasurer of Minnesota from 1860 to 1868. His work on behalf of the "Allotment Agency" is described in his "Annual Report" for 1862. The allotment system was established under a federal law of July 22, 1861, which provided that the "family of a volunteer may draw such portions of his pay as he may request." United States, *Statutes at Large*, 12:271; Minnesota, *Executive Documents*, 1862, p. 608.

¹⁹ Gorman, who had served as governor of Minnesota Territory, entered the Civil War as colonel of the First Minnesota. Stone went to Washington early in 1862 to testify before the Congressional joint committee on the conduct of the war, which was investigating the causes of the Union disaster at Ball's Bluff. *Dictionary of American Biography*, 7:435, 18:72; T. Harry Williams, *Lincoln and the Radicals*, 94 (Madison, Wisconsin, 1941).

²⁰ Dana, a graduate of the United States Military Academy at West Point, entered the volunteer service as colonel of the First Minnesota on October 2, 1861. He became a brigadier general in the following February. For a sketch of his career, see the *Dictionary of American Biography*, 5:58. Unless otherwise indicated, Taylor's statements about members of the First Minnesota are accurate; their names and service records are listed on the roster in *Minnesota in the Civil and Indian Wars*, 1:49-66.

Sat [January] 11th. Cloudy & moderate weather. Co. drill in A.M. A slight drizzle & no drill in P.M. Col. [Cyrus] Aldrich, M[ember of] C[ongress] (Rep[resenta]tive) in camp.²¹ Report says Col. Dana is appointed Brig. Gen. He will make a good one.

Sun. Jan. 12th. Cloudy in A.M. Clear in P.M. Quite warm. On guard. It mists a little this evening & threatens a storm. Plenty of mud. Officers of Van Allen's cavalry & Min. 1st., having a spree to night.²² A number in the condition expressed by "tight." Officers are commonly supposed to set an *example* for the privates E. L. Nason, Co. D, on guard for eating pankakes at roll-call last night. Put on by order of W^m Harmon, Orderly Serg. of Co. D. Balloon reconnaissance at Ed's Ferry in A.M. Balloon visible from Camp Stone.²³

Mon. [January] 13 No drill in A.M. Co. E went on picket at Conrad's Ferry in P.M.²⁴ Weather quite cool. Rather muddy.

Tues. [January] 14 On picket opposite Ball's Bluff. About 2 inches snow fell last night. Cold wind & cloudy with occasional sprinkles of snow.

Wed. Jan. 15 Snowed & sleeted moderately nearly the whole night. A crust on the snow that is ruinous to shoeleather. Paid a visit to a "block-house," opposite the battle ground of Ball's Bluff, built by Mass. 15th. It is ten feet high (inside) with covering (supposed to be bomb-proof) composed of heavy logs covered with earth. The following diagram exhibits its dimensions upon the ground.

Ball's Bluff

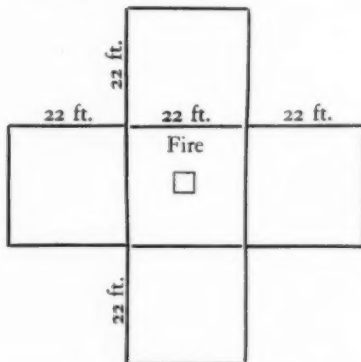
Potomac River

Harrison's Island

Potomac River

Land between canal & river

Ohio & Chessapeake canal



²¹ Aldrich was a representative in Congress from Minnesota from 1859 to 1863.

²² The Third New York Cavalry was known as Van Alen's. *Official Records*, series 1, vol. 5, p. 330.

One row of loop holes for musketry—72 in all. A small steam tug passed up the canal this P.M. Rather "bilious" weather, sleeting greater part of the day. Relieved by Co. D, at 8 P.M. & marched back to camp as hungry as a bear, provisions having "gone dry" so that scarcely anything remained for dinner & that was devoured before I returned from inspection of the "block house." At camp found Oscar Sears Co. E, & several other returned prisoners from Richmond, Va. They were captured at Bull Run.

Thur. Jan. 16 Drilling in guard duty in A.M. Called out in P.M. to listen to reading of Army Regulations. Thawing.

Fri. [January] 17 Quite warm & pleasant winter weather. The officer of the guard of N.Y. 34th. arrested last night by Col. Dana (Com'g brigade) for allowing his guard to go to their quarters to sleep instead of remaining at guard-house. G'd drill in A.M. Comp. & guard drill in P.M. We hear to night that Gen. Grant is in full march down the Missi[ssi]ppi & we hope soon to hear that Columbus is taken & the rebels skadad-dle-ing in all parts of the west.²⁵ I hope we are now prepared for active operations in the West if not on the Potomac May the Lord grant that Gen. Grant may grant the Secesh a sound thrashing.

Sat. Jan. 18. Very muddy. No drill. Reading, cleaning up for inspection &c.

Sun. [January] 19 Rained considerably last night & small pools of water made intrusive visit to our camp, owing to defective banking. So wet & drizzly that inspection & dress parade are omitted.

Victory at Mill Spring[s] Kentucky.

²⁵ For a study of the use of balloons in the Civil War, see F. Stansbury Hayden, *Aeronautics in the Union and Confederate Armies* (Baltimore, 1941). Thaddeus S. Lowe was chief of the Union Army's aeronautic section. While serving with the Army of the Potomac, he added his aerial observations to reconnaissance reports. *Dictionary of American Biography*, 11:452; *Official Records*, series 3, vol. 1, p. 283.

²⁶ Conrad's Ferry was on the Maryland side of the Potomac and Ball's Bluff was on the Virginia side. Both were about four miles above Edward's Ferry and were near Leesburg, the Confederate headquarters.

²⁷ The Confederate forces fortified Columbus, Kentucky, after they failed to hold the line of the Ohio River in 1861. In January, 1862, General George B. McClellan ordered Grant to make demonstrations to discourage any Confederate attempt to send reinforcements from Columbus, Fort Henry, or Fort Donelson to Bowling Green. Under Grant's direction, Union forces threatened Columbus and the Tennessee River route, thus contributing to General George H. Thomas' expulsion of the Confederates from Kentucky after the victory at Mill Springs. See James Truslow Adams, ed., *Dictionary of American History*, 3:404, 419; Ulysses S. Grant, *Personal Memoirs*, 1:233 (New York, 1895). The battles and movements of troops mentioned by Taylor can be followed on a series of Civil War maps in the *Atlas of American History*, 123-136, and on a map in the *Encyclopedia Americana*, 29:210.

Mon. [January] 20 Cloudy with occasional drizzle throughout the day. Any quantity of mud & no drill.

Tues. [January] 21 Cloudy with occasional sprinkles of snow. Mud increasing & no drill. Nothing to do but read & attend roll-call

Wed. [January] 22 Weather cloudy & moderate. The mud is "Awful to contemplate." No drill except dress parade. Glorious news from "Old Kentuck." [Felix K.] Zollicoffer killed & his whole army routed. Hurrah! for the boys who "faced the music" & won the victory. Three cheers for the Min. 2d.! Gens. [George H.] Thomas & [Albin] Sherffe [Schoepf] com'g Federal forces.²⁶ Rhode Island battery fires 34 guns in honor of the victory. Guard drill.

Thur. Jan. 23 Last night's cold stiffened the mud a little. Guard drill. It is reported that we are to move from this camp within a few days. Kentucky victory confirmed.

Fri. [January] 24 Comp. drill & plenty of mud. Weather moderate.

Sat. [January] 25 On guard. Awful muddy. Froze quite solid during the night. Cloudy most of the day.

Sun. [January] 26 A clear, pleasant day. Thawing slightly in middle of the day. Too muddy for dress parade.

Mon. [January] 27 Froze quite solid last night. Comp. drill in A.M. No drill in P.M. on account of mud. Hope to hear something definite from [Ambrose E.] Burnside's Expedition by to night's mail.²⁷ Played my first game of chess.

Tues. [January] 28 Came on picket at Ed's Ferry this morning. Rained moderately all A.M. Cloudy all day & very dark at night. Comfortably warm.

Wed. [January] 29 Stood guard 1¼ hours last night. Cloudy all day. Gen. Stone went down the canal on a steam tug at 11 P.M. last night.²⁸ B—b-a-E—F—t-c-t-P—. T—u—w—.

Thur. Jan. 30 Mich. 7th. boys visited the island just below here last

²⁶ Zollicoffer, who was second in command of the Confederate forces at Mill Springs, had been sent to Kentucky to check Union tendencies there. See *Dictionary of American Biography*, 20:659. For an account of the Second Minnesota at Mill Springs, see *Minnesota in the Civil and Indian Wars*, 1:82-85. General Schoepf's part in the battle is described in Robert Johnson and Clarence Buel, eds., *Battles and Leaders of the Civil War*, 1:392 (New York, 1884-87).

²⁷ In late January Burnside, with a fleet of light-draft vessels, was approaching Roanoke Island through Hatteras Inlet. He was planning to establish lodgments along the coast of the Southern states in order to threaten interior lines of transportation in the rear of the Confederate Army concentrating in Virginia. *Battles and Leaders of the Civil War*, 1:660-670.

²⁸ Stone was on his way to Washington for a second appearance before the committee

night in a row boat. No traces of Secesh pickets on the island. Drizzling a good portion of last night. Stood guard $1\frac{1}{2}$ hours last night Reading, playing chess &c. Cloudy day & warm. F—h—t—o—a—s—i—w—a—E—F—. Lieut Col. Stephen Miller came up from Washington on the canal.²⁹ He is yet quite fe[c]ble—has been sick a long time at Harrisburg, Pa.

Fri. [January] 31 Dark & cloudy last night though very good weather for standing guard. Tolerably clear this morning but cloudy most of the day. Relieved at M. by Co. D. Awful muddy between camp & Ferry. Co. E paid in P.M. by Maj. Bannister Recd \$26.00 or 2 months pay

Sat. Feb. 1st. Considerable beer circulating in camp Something like a dozen soldiers of N.Y. 2d. in guard house of Min. 1st., said to be deserters. Two & a half inches of snow this morning. Growing cold to night.

Sun. [February] 2 The mud this morning sufficiently frozen to bear a footman. Thawing & muddy throughout the day. In camp reading &c.

Mon [February] 3d. Snowing briskly this morning. Snowed a good part of the day. 4 inches snow—the most we have had at any time this winter. Freezing a little. "Gen. Dana" serenaded to night by band of Min. 1st. He made a brief speech in which he said it was true that he had recd. a telegram announcing his confirmation, by the Senate, as Brig. Gen. Snowing late this evening.

Tues. Feb. 4 Four or five inches snow this morning Ground frozen but weather moderate. Thawing a little in middle of the day. Sky nearly clear. Went to Poolville & made some purchases. Had a first-rate dinner at Lamb's eating-house for which I paid a first-rate price— $37\frac{1}{2}$ cents. Had coffee "*as is coffee*" Gen. Gorman treats the enemy to a few shells.

Wed. [February] 5 Pretty cold last night Ground solid this morning. Thawed a trifle. Dress parade to day at which, findings of a court martial were read. Several of Co. F sentenced to forfeit one month's pay & perform guard duty from 8 to thirty days. Crimes, stealing sutler stores & allowing other[s] to take stores over which they were standing sentry. Cannonading at Ed's Ferry said to be the shelling of a Secesh observatory

on the conduct of the war, which insisted upon his arrest for disloyalty. On February 8 he was imprisoned at Fort La Fayette, where he spent more than six months. Williams, *Lincoln and the Radicals*, 47, 94-104.

²⁹ Miller, an officer of the First Minnesota, became governor of Minnesota in 1864.

Thurs. Feb. 6 On camp guard Drizzling rain in A.M. Cloudy most of P.M. Clear & moderate weather throughout the night. On 2d. relief. About a dozen deserters from N.Y. 2d. in our g'd-house Sixty or seventy of N.Y. 2d. have deserted within two weeks. It is a natural sequence to their conduct during the retreat from Va in Oct. Brave soldiers! Illustrious patriots! Their pictures (with the original) ought to be hung in some conspicuous place. Lieut. Col. Stephen Miller in command of this Reg. to day.

Fri. [February] 7 Co. E drilled this A.M. Weather moderate. Telegram recd. announcing a great Union victory near the Tennessee line; capture of one Gen. & staff, 20 cannon &c.³⁰ Good enough for us.

Sat. Feb. 8th. Same old story of mud & moderate weather. Com. drill in A.M. Naval expeditions, battles, & "great victories" not worth noticing to day. In co. E, all excitement centered on wood-chopping race between L. U. Dow & John Harrington. Bet, five dollars, J. Haboot $\frac{1}{4}$ cord ahead.³¹ Kentucky or Tennessee victory confirmed Ft. Henry, on Tennessee captured by gunboats under Commodore [Andrew H.] Foote

Fifty two recruits for Min. 1st. arrived. "Auspicious omens cheer us"

Sun. [February] 9 A very fine day though disagreeable under foot. Inspection at 8 A.M. Attended prayer meeting at cabin of Co. F. this evening.

Mon. [February] 10 Drilled in bayonet exercise in A.M. Mass 20th, 7th Mich. & N.Y. 34th using blank cartridges in skirmish drill. Mud & no drill in P.M. News comes to night of the arrest in Washing[ton] & sending of Gen Stone to Ft. Lafayette.

Tues. Feb. 11 Drilled in bayonet exercise in A.M. Gen. Stone was arrested day before yesterd[a]y for disloyalty &c. A light sprinkle of snow in P.M.

Wed. [February] 12. Bayonet drill in A.M. Weather moderate. Roanoak island taken by Burnside Expedition Report says 2000 rebels taken prisoner & 1000 killed. Cheering for our cause. Victories begin to illuminate our hopes. The Anaconda tightens another coil. The resolutions introduced in Senate yesterday by Sen. [Charles] Sumner of Mass, concerning relations existing between Gen. Government & the

³⁰ Fort Henry on the Tennessee River was captured on February 6. *Dictionary of American History*, 3:26.

³¹ "Haboot" probably was Harrington's middle name or a nickname.

Seceded States are worthy of especial note. & will, no doubt, become the central point of "slavery agitation."³²

Thur. [February] 13. On camp guard, 1st. relief. A fine, warm day & night. I hear canonading at Ed's Ferry.

Fri. Feb. 14. A fine day. Mud drying up fast. Bayonet exercise both in A.M. & P.M. Sen. [Garrett] Davis of Ky. yesterday introduced anti-Sumner resolutions.

Sat. [February] 15 About 2 or 3 in. of snow fell in A.M. Weather moderately cool 11 P.M. News just arrived of a great victory in Tenn. 20,000 rebels captured. Too good to be true. Band of N.Y. 34th are playing in honor of the victory. It will be a joke on the band if the report proves to be a "ho-ax"

Sun. [February] 16. Dispatch from Gen. Gorman, dated 10 P.M., Feb. 15th says 15,000 prisoners taken at Ft. Donelson. A *good haul!* A fine sabbath day. Dress parade at which was read joint Resolutions of Min. Legislature, complimenting the "veteran 1st." & the "glorious 2d;" also an order from Gen. McClellan assigning Brig. Gen. [John] Sedgewick, of [Samuel P.] Heintzleman's Division, to the command of this Division, vice. Stone, arrested.³³

Mon. Feb. 17 Came on "reserve," ½ mi. back from river, oposite Ball's Bluff. Have an easy time — no guard in daytime but one sentinal at night. The pickets along the river firing at each other. W^m Smil[c]y, Samuel Leyde, Edwin L. Keen & [William E.] Fullerton [Fullerton] of Co. E, left camp this morning to join the Mississippi fleet. About 20 went from Min. 1st.

Sleeting a good portion of the day.

Tues. [February] 18. Picket warefare on the river continues. I had three shots at the scamps to day. They commenced the game & if they would come within good range they would soon be game themselves Sunday's dispatch from St. Louis says Ft. Donelson is ornamented with

³² The Sumner resolutions held that the seceded states had forfeited their rights as states. Since slavery was an institution peculiar to states as political units, loss of sovereignty nullified the ownership of slaves. In reply to Sumner, Senator Davis of Kentucky introduced the resolutions mentioned in the entry for February 14. He proclaimed the states fixed and immutable units unjustly punished for refusing loyalty to a government which denied them protection. *Congressional Globe*, 37 Congress, 2 session, 736, 786.

³³ Both Sedgwick and Heintzleman were West Point graduates, and both served in the Civil War as brigadier generals of volunteers. For sketches of their careers, see the *Dictionary of American Biography*, 8:505, 16:548. On the surrender of Fort Donelson, see the *Dictionary of American History*, 2:160; Grant, *Memoirs*, 1:241-259.

There is quite an extensive nest of rebels close to Ex Mayor Swan's house. It seems to me that the encampment is within cannon range.

Fri. Feb. 21. Relieved at 11 A.M. & marched to camp. On reaching camp we learn that our 1st. Lieut., John Chase, has been appointed adjutant of the Reg. & that 1st. Lieut., Samuel Raguét, of Co. C, has been assigned to Co. E. All done during our absence. Great commotion & tall swearing in Co. E. The boys think it an *imposition* to take an officer from another Co. to fill a vacancy in this.

Co. C also in the first stages of mutiny on account of the transfer of Raguét & the promotion of their hated "orderly" to the 1st. lieutenancy. Dissatisfaction all around. The matter does look like an insult to Co. E. However, there is no use in a soldier's getting his bristles up for he must submit to anything that comes along.

Sat. Feb. 22. Early this morning we hear the big guns booming in the direction of Point of Rocks. Suppose it to be in honor of the "Father of his Country." This A.M. Co. E taken out & the transfer matter explained by Capt. [George] Pomeroy. Some satisfied & some not. At 2 P.M., Reg. formed three sides of a square on parade ground & saddle, bridle, pistols &c. were presented to Brig. Gen. Dana by Sergt. [Charles H.] Jewet[t] of Co. E, in behalf of the non commissioned officers & soldiers of the 1st. Reg. Min. Vol. Music by the band. Gen. Dana made a brief response to the presentation speech. He is assigned to the brigade formerly commanded by Gen. [Frederick W.] Lander. Rainy this morning & plenty of mud all day. Clarksville, Tenn., is ours. Reported, Sterling Price licked in Arkansas, Nashville proposes to surrender, Savannah beleaguered & rebels falling back from Manassas. Big budget of news for our side if true

Sun. Feb. 23d. Cloudy & moderate weather. Inspection in our quarters on account of mud. Mass. 15th is assigned to this (Gorman's) brigade. Gen. Dana's brigade is composed of the 19th. & 20th. Mass, 7th. Mich. & 42d. N.Y. (Tam[m]any). In obedience to orders Co. E has knapsacks packed & surplus baggage boxed up, all ready to march at a moments notice.

Mon. [February] 24 Rainy in A.M. High wind in P.M. which dries the mud rapidly. Gorman's brigade starts for Adamstown at 8 A.M. tomorrow. Destination from thence not known.³⁵ Growing cold this evening.

³⁵ Adamstown is north and west of Poolesville. The First Minnesota was among the Union troops ordered to Harper's Ferry in a move against the Confederate forces under "Stonewall" Jackson. *History of the First Minnesota*, 84.

Tues. Feb. 25. The wind & cold put a "quietus" on the mud last night making it fine marching this morning, with the exception of a little roughness of the roads. A most delightful morning. Left Camp Stone, with 2 days rations, at 9 A.M. Whole of Gen. Gorman's Brigade en route for Adamstown, on the Baltimore & Ohio R.R., some 16 or 18 miles distant. Gorm[an's] 2d. & 34th, N.Y., 1st. Min., 15th Mass.[,] batteries A & B Rhode Island & battery I, regular artillery, (Ricket[t]s), make a gay crowd.³⁶ We move slowly, 2-30 P.M. reached Barnestown. This is a small, *ancient* looking village. It does not bear the marks of *yankée* enterprise. Roads getting muddy this afternoon. Artillery has to double teams to get up the steep hills. At sundown, camped by a brook between two large hills near the Monocacy River, some 3 mi. beyond Sugarloaf Mountain. Splendid music by Min. band this evening I could march all night by such music without fatigue.

At Pooleville Min. gives 3 cheers for Gen. Dana.

Wed. Feb. 26. Crossed the Monoca[c]y early this morning. Reached Adamstown about 9 A.M. Left on cars for Harper's Ferry about 12 M. Came on Balt. & Ohio R.R. via Point of Rocks. Scenery at Point of Rocks, & Harper's Ferry & between those places is sublime. Refreshing to look at the "crags & peaks" along the river. Crossed the Potomac on a pontoon bridge at 6 P.M. & are now on "sacred soil" & quartered in a partially destroyed Gov. building in the Harper's Ferry of John Brown notoriety.³⁷

Thur. [February] 27. Troops, infantry, artillery & cavalry coming across all day. The town is alive with troops. I took a stroll about town to day. Whatever blessing may attend rebellion elsewhere, it certainly does not pay in Harper's Ferry. The town is almost totally deserted. Churches, hotels, drug stores, groceries, dry goods establishments, public buildings & private residences abandoned. In my rambles I have seen but five citizens—two old men & three women. The sin of Secession has brought with it a curse almost equal to that which afflicted Babylon. The gloominess of the cemetery that caps the summit of the hill is in perfect harmony with the desolation of the town beneath. Harper's Ferry is a striking illustration of the truth of "The way of the

³⁶ Ricketts' Battery was known also as Kirby's; it was a unit of the First United States Artillery. *Official Records*, series 1, vol. 5, p. 16, 333.

³⁷ Brown and a handful of followers barricaded themselves in the engine house of the United States Armory at Harper's Ferry and were captured by Robert E. Lee and his marines in October, 1859. Oswald Garrison Villard, *John Brown, 1800-1859: A Biography Fifty Years After*, 426-466 (New York, 1910).

transgressor is hard." If Harper's Ferry is a fair sample of what Secession has done for Va., God help her! for she is past help from any *human* source. Visited the engine house where John Brown was captured by U. S. marines. I recd. an account of the whole affair from the lips of an old man, an eye witness. Two Co's of 1st. Mich. cavalry entered Charlestown this morning & took 3 prisoners (cavalry) & mad[e] the remaining Secesh skadaddle.

A rainy day

On guard to day.

Fri. Feb. 28. After breakfast, 1st. Min. moved to better quarters on the hill. Co. E has excellent quarters in fine building said to have been erected by Government for the residence of officers having charge of Gov't works. Min. Reg. mustered for payment this P.M. Visited "Jefferson's Rock" on the bank of the Shenandoah, where he is said to have made a speech. It is supported by four red (granite) stone pillars to prevent its falling.³⁸ Ricketts battery & some Rhode Island artillery came over to day.

Clear & pleasant though quite cool wind.

Sat. Mar. 1st. A very fine day—warmer than yesterday. Roving about town taking observations. Union troops occupy Charles Town.

Telegraph wire stretched across Potomac this P.M.

Sun. [March] 2d. An inch or two of snow fell to day. Union troops 4 miles beyond Charlestown. The enemy's pickets fall back towards Winchester R.R. bridge across the Potomac being rebuilt. This morning Gorman's brigade moved to Bolivar Heights & encamped. The valley of the Shenandoah is a beautiful tract of country. Quite a number of contrabands came into camp & expressed their satisfaction at the approach of the Union Army.³⁹ Some of them are intelligent, smart fellows & keen observers.

Mon. [March] 3d. A stormy day—rain & sleet with cool wind. Went to Sandy Hook, Md., on a pass. Road lined with wagons containing army supplies.

Tues. Mar. 4. Last night was cold & stormy. Wind blew a perfect gale making it "bilious" for sentinels. Cold this morning. Moderate in

³⁸ The rock is described also in the diary kept by Matthew Marvin, a member of Company K of the First Minnesota. See his entry for February 28, 1862. The diary is among the Marvin Papers, in the possession of the Minnesota Historical Society.

³⁹ Bolivar Heights is shown just back of the town of Harper's Ferry on a map in Villard, *John Brown*, 428. Negroes who sought refuge within the Union lines were known as contrabands. *Dictionary of American History*, 2:47.

P.M. Sixteen contrabands passed our camp this P.M. under guard. Order of Gen. Sedgwick against depredations by soldiers, read to day.

Wed. [March] 5. On "fatigue" party, loading & unloading army supplies at Sandy Hook, Md. Cloudy & rather cool. R.R. bridge across Potomac progressing. Official confirmation of the evacuation of Columbus (Ky.) by the rebels. Their Western Manassas has fallen and the Southern Confederacy will shortly be "ditto." Hurrah for Brig. Gen. "Andy" Johnson, military Governor of Tenn!⁴⁰

Thur. [March] 6. A patrol of ten men from Min. 1st. sent out yesterday & to day to arrest stragglers without a pass. They brought in ten yesterday & five to day. They report being well recd. by the citizens & that the cider & "old rye" was freely proffered &, of course, accepted. The rovers caught belonged to Co. A, of N.Y. 34th. We have orders to march at 8 A.M. tomorrow.

Fri. Mar. 7th. Marched to Charlestown this A.M. & encamped near the town. Our advance is within ten miles of Winchester. Report says the rebels are evacuating the place.⁴¹ I saw the court house where Old Ossawatami Brown was tried & also the place where he was executed.⁴² Yesterday the 1st. Mich. cavalry captured 4 companies of Md. 1st., mistaking them for Secesh. The cavalry were returning from a scouting expedition & were fired into by Md. 1st.

Sat. [March] 8th. Warm & pleasant. Brig. drill in P.M. witnessed by Gen. [Nathaniel P.] Banks & staff.⁴³ All the Brigade present except 2d. N.Y. which is on duty at H's Ferry.

Sun. Mar. 9th. A beautiful Sabbath. Went to church in A.M. at Presbyterian house in Charlestown. Sermon by Rev. E[dward] D. Neill, chaplain of Min. 1st.⁴⁴ Audience principally soldiers of Min. A few citizens present. The fine organ discoursed sweet music. The

⁴⁰ Immediately after the Union Army under General Don C. Buell entered Nashville on February 25, Johnson, as military governor, began the work of restoring western Tennessee to the Union. *Dictionary of American Biography*, 10:83.

⁴¹ Jackson did not withdraw from Winchester until the evening of March 11. *Official Records*, series 1, vol. 5, p. 4.

⁴² Brown was known as "Old Osawatomic" after his complicity in the murders of several proslavery farmers living along the Kansas Pottawatomic Creek on May 24, 1856. He was tried and executed at Charlestown. Villard, *John Brown*, 148-188, 467-557.

⁴³ Banks commanded the Fifth Corps of the Department of the Shenandoah. *Dictionary of American Biography*, 1:577.

⁴⁴ Neill, a pioneer Presbyterian minister of St. Paul, became chaplain of the First Minnesota when it was organized. He was made an assistant secretary to President Lincoln in 1864. For an account of his career, see the *Dictionary of American Biography*, 13:408. Marvin also describes this church service in his diary for the same date.

first sermon I have heard for three months. The church is a fine brick building with gallery & fixtures for lighting it with gas. The Min. 1st. run the whole institution, organ & all. The service awakens pleasant recollections. Dress parade to night.

Mon. [March] 10th. Had orders to march at 6 A.M. but did not get started till about 8. Marched through Charlestown & took the turnpike to Berryville, county seat of Clark Co., where we arrived about 2 P.M. A portion (1 battalion under Maj. [John] Mix) of Van Allens N.Y. cavalry, Rhode Island battery A & 1st. Min. led the advance. A section of battery A fired 2 shells at Secesh cavalry near Berryville. About two hundred Secesh cavalry left town as our forces entered. Co's B. E. & K were the advance infantry skirmishers. One Confederate flag captured by our cavalry. Quite a respectable village of about 1000 inhabitants. It has a large & elegant Episcopal church. Dis. from Charlestown to B, 12 miles. Pretty tired lugging knapsack, canteen & three days rations. Partook of baked ham, fresh bread & milk proffered by contrabands. The aforesaid refreshments were gratefully recd by the "Interior Department." Camped in a grove N.W. of town. Rain storm in evening

Corporation scrip very plenty in this town.⁴⁵

Tues. Mar. 11th. Cold N.W. wind last night from the Alleghenies. Had to get up at midnight & run about camp to keep warm. Last night the typographical corps of First Min. took possession of the office of the "Berryville Conservator" & this morning issued there from the 1st. No. of "The First Minnesota" which is read with much interest by the soldiers of the "veteran 1st." 2d. edition of the "First Minnesota" issued this P.M. & sold for five cents per copy.⁴⁶ Strolled about town to take a view of things generally. Came very near being arrested but finally succeeded in eluding the patrol. The Seminary & the private residence of the Prof. are entirely "out of proportion," the latter being five or six times as large as the former. Maj. Mix[s] cavalry made a reconnais-

⁴⁵ Corporation scrip, commonly known as "shin-plasters," was issued in small denominations by Southern communities. In Virginia scrip was redeemable in state bank notes when presented in sums of five dollars. A satirical design for scrip appears in the issue for March 13, 1862, of the *First Minnesota*, the newspaper published by the regiment at Berryville. Several issues of this rare Civil War paper are owned by the Minnesota Historical Society.

⁴⁶ The first page of the morning edition of the *First Minnesota* for March 11 is that of the *Berryville Conservator*, which the men found made up when they took over the office. The evening issue explains that an additional fifteen thousand copies have been printed because the first ten thousand were sold immediately. The issue for March 13 carries almost the same material as do the earlier two. Taylor's narrative of events corresponds closely with that given in the newspaper.

ance this morning to within 3 or 4 miles of Winchester. They encountered Col. [Turner] Ashby's cavalry, killed a few, took 5 or six prisoners & lost one man. Co's B & K constitute the provost guard of Berryville. Capt. [John H.] Pell, Co I, Provost Marshall. Secesh in this town are very meek & "studiously refrain" from exhibiting Secession proclivities. [William W.] Burns' Brig. passed us this P.M. & took the road leading to Winchester. Burns now being in the advance we are allowed fires to night. Our tents now arrived we rejoice in expectation of a good sleep.

Wed. Mar. 12. A fine pleasant day We hear that our troops are in possession of Winchester Long roll to night. Gen. [John] Abercrombie's brigade passes towards W. with music & cheering. 2d. & 34th. N.Y. also start out but are ordered back Ordered to hold ourselves in readiness to march at a moments notice. Slept with accoutrements all on.

Thur. [March] 13 Started for Winchester early this morning. When with in 2 miles of W., order given to return to Berryville.⁴⁷ After resting awhile, marched back to our old camp ground at B. Dis. from B. to W., 10½ miles. Our new Col., Alfred Sulley, joined us this morning.⁴⁸ He is a West Pointer & has served twenty one years in 2d. Regt. U. S. Infantry. He was Capt. at the time of his appointment to the Colonelcy of our Regt. The boys are all jubilant over the arrival of our Col. Now we are ready for a fight, having an officer in whom *we can have confidence*. Country between B. & W. not so good as between B. & Charlestown. Rather rocky—thickets of dwarf pines 3 or 4 miles from W. On guard to day. Took 3 of our prisoners with us on march. 17 miles with knapsack leaves a fellow somewhat tired at night. No guard tents pitched to night & hence have to lie around the fire & glean what comfort we can from that true friend of the soldier. It seems to be, now, beyond a doubt that the Secesh have left their famed strong hold at Centerville & Manassas. "Things is working."

Recd. official report of Gen. [Samuel R.] Curtis' victory in Arkansas.

Rebel iron-clad steamer Merrimac, it seems, has been smashing things generally at Newport News.⁴⁹

⁴⁷ The news of Jackson's evacuation of Winchester brought an order for the return of Sedgwick's command to Harper's Ferry. *History of the First Minnesota*, 91.

⁴⁸ Sully received his commission as colonel of the First Minnesota in February, 1862; he succeeded Dana, who became a brigadier general. As an officer in the regular army, Sully served in Missouri and with the defenses of Washington. He remained with the regiment until the spring of 1863, when he went to Minnesota to lead an expedition against the Sioux. *Minnesota in the Civil and Indian Wars*, 1:17, 32, 49; *National Cyclopaedia of American Biography*, 12:285.

⁴⁹ Curtis' victory at Pea Ridge occurred at the time when the "Merrimac" destroyed

Fri. Mar. 14 Started for H's Ferry at 9 A.M. Passed Gen. Dana's brigade a few miles from Berryville. Each Co. of 1st. Min. gave Gen. D. three cheers as they passed—did it *with a will*, too. Camped for the night at Charlestown. Rather foot sore.

Whole guard arrested this morning for discharging guns.

Sat [March] 15 Marched to Bolivar Heights through a rain storm and encamped Contrabands at Halltown hard at work piling hay.⁵⁰ Cars now run from Winchester to H. Telegraph in operation as far as Winchester.

Sun. [March] 16. Report, seemingly reliable, says New Madrid, Mo., is ours. Got a pass & went to Sandy Hook. R.R. bridge across the Potomac in an advanced stage. Cloudy & moderate weather. Dana's Brig. quartered in houses in H's Ferry. Gorman's & Burns' brigades in tents at Bolivar. Much speculation in our Regt. as to our next field of operations. The general impression is that we go to reinforce Burnside.⁵¹

Work on R.R. & bridge progressing to day.

Mon. Mar. 17. A company of about 20 contrabands, accompanied by one or two guards, passed our camp towards H's Ferry. A pontoon train passed towards Winchester in P.M. Mild weather & cloudy. Two days rations ordered to be cooked & ready by tomorrow morning. The following new Article of War adopted by Congress & approved by Pres. Lincoln, goes into immediate operation. "All officers or persons in the military or naval service of the U. S. are prohibited from employing any of the forces under their respective commands for the purpose of returning fugitives from service or labor who may have escaped from any person to whom such service or labor is claimed to be due, and any officer who shall be found guilty by court-martial of violating this article of war shall be dismissed from the service"⁵² This morning the band of N.Y. 2d plays "St Patricks Day in the morning" in honor of that distinguished Saint.

the blockading ships "Congress" and "Cumberland" off Newport News. *Dictionary of American History*, 3:378, 4:230.

⁵⁰ Halltown is a few miles west of Harper's Ferry.

⁵¹ New Madrid, on a bend in the Mississippi River above Island No. 10, fell on March 14, eight days after General John Pope blockaded the stream at Point Pleasant. Shortly thereafter, Burnside, commanding the Department of North Carolina, captured Roanoke Island, New Bern, and Fort Macon. *Battles and Leaders of the Civil War*, 1:437, 440, 660-670; *Encyclopedia Americana*, 5:62; *Dictionary of American History*, 3:321, 4:497.

⁵² For the text of this article, see James D. Richardson, ed., *A Compilation of the Messages and Papers of the Presidents, 1789-1897*, 6:97.

Tues. Mar. 18. Didn't march to day as we expected. Drilled in bayonet exercise in A.M. This P.M. we had the first regimental drill under the direction of our new Col. Yesterday W. A. Gorman was confirmed by U. S. Senate as Brig. Gen. of Vols. Union victory at New Madrid confirmed. It is also announced that island No. 10 is in our possession.⁵³ Poor Secesh! sort o' tough isn't it?

Wed. [March] 19. Bayonet drill in A.M. & brigade drill in P.M. Part of Bank's Div. reached Manassas via of Strasburg yesterday. Order of Gen. McClellan published in to days paper assigns Sedgwick['s] Div. to 2d. Corps of the "Army of the Potomac," commanded by Brig. Gen. E[dwin] V. Sumner.⁵⁴ "Another" victory — Burnside takes Newbern, N.C., & the rebels fly, as usual. Island No. 10 proves to be a "big thing" — not ours yet. Unloaded cars crossed Potomac on new R. R. bridge to day.

Thur. Mar. 20. Train of cars came into H's Ferry from Winchester. A cloudy, drizzly day.

Active Army of the Potomac.

- | | |
|-------------|--|
| 1st. Corps. | Divs. of [William B.] Franklin, [George A.] McCall & [Rufus] King.
Com'd by Maj. Gen. Irvine McDowell. |
| 2d. " | Divs. of [Israel B.] Richardson, [Louis] Blenker, Sedgwick.
Com'd by Brig. Gen. E. V. Sumner. |
| 3d. " | Divs. of F. T. [Fitz John] Porter, [Joseph] Hooker, [Charles S.] Hamilton.
Com'd by Brig. Gen. Heintzelman. |
| 4th. " | Divs. of [Darius N.] Couch, [William F.] Smith, [Silas] Casey.
Com'd by Brig. Gen. E[rasmus] D. Keyes. |
| 5th. " | Divs. of [Alpheus S.] Williams, [James] Shields.
Com'd by Maj. Gen. N. P. Banks. ⁵⁵ |

Quite a number at "sick-call" this morning.

Fri. [March] 21. A rainy, foggy day. This P.M. 1st. Minn. ordered to quarters in H's Ferry. Co. E & several others located in a larg[e] 4 story brick flouring mill on an island in the Shenandoah. Staid about ½ hour & then ordered back to our camp on Bolivar Heights. A mem-

⁵³ Island No. 10 did not fall until April 8. *Dictionary of American History*, 3: 161.

⁵⁴ For a sketch of Sumner, see the *Dictionary of American Biography*, 18: 214.

⁵⁵ This list is verified in *Official Records*, series 1, vol. 5, p. 18.

ber of Co. H, 34th. N.Y. Regt. buried in Bolivar grave yard at sundown. Corp. of Mass. 15th. drowned in canal at Sandy Hook last night.⁶⁶

Sat. Mar. 22. Gorman's brigade struck tents this morning & marched over to Sandy Hook. 1st. Min. took cars about 2 P.M. followed closely by the rest of the brigade. Considerable enthusiasm manifested on the route, especially by the ladies. Between Pt. of Rocks & An[n]apolis Junction wheatfields exhibit a carpet of green. Rather cool riding in cars without any fire.

Sun. [March] 23d. Reached Washington about 2 A.M. & put up at the "Soldier's Rest." About 3 A.M. were marched into "Soldier's Retreat" & partook of hot coffee.⁶⁷ On guard. 1st. Min. encamped on Capatol Hill N.W. of Capitol. All of Gorman's &, at least, a partial [portion?] of Burns' brigade has arrived.

A pleasant day.

Mon. [March] 24. This mornings pape[r] states that Gen. Shields has fought & whipped Jackson near Winchester since we left H's Ferry.⁶⁸ Visited Smithsonian Institute & Capitol Took a peep into Senate Chamber & Hall of Representatives & listened to the legislative wisdom of the country. How changed the aspect of affairs since Mass. & South Carolina, through their illustrious sons, Webster & Hayne, in that same Hall, emulated each other in expressions of devotion to the *Union* & the *Constitution*. Listened to a part of a speech of Sen. Davis of Kentucky on a proposition to abolish slavery in Dist. of Columbia. In Senate Chamber saw Lord Lyons English Minister to Washington. He is quite bald & dignified — a regular "Johnny Bull."⁶⁹ Min. has dress parade on

⁶⁶ Corporal Charles B. Woods of Company A, Fifteenth Massachusetts Infantry, was the man who was drowned. *Massachusetts Soldiers, Sailors, and Marines in the Civil War*, 2:141 (Norwood, Massachusetts, 1931).

⁶⁷ The Soldiers' Rest was a receiving station where newly arrived troops and soldiers who were ill, discharged, or otherwise detained in Washington for more than a day were given assistance; the Soldiers' Retreat was a refreshment station where soldiers or their families could obtain food and lodging. Both were established in Washington by the United States Sanitary Commission. United States Sanitary Commission, *Bulletins*, 2:590 (New York, 1866); Charles B. Todd, *The Story of Washington*, 147 (New York, 1889); Mary A. G. Holland, *Our Army Nurses*, 96, 208 (Boston, 1895); *The United States Sanitary Commission: A Sketch of Its Purposes and Its Work*, 222-229 (Boston, 1863); *The Sanitary Commission of the United States: A Succinct Narrative of Its Work*, 16, 93-95 (New York, 1864); Frederic N. Knapp, *Two Reports Concerning the Aid and Comfort Given by the Sanitary Commission*, 1-19 (Washington, 1861).

⁶⁸ The occupation of Winchester by Union forces on March 12, 1862, is fully described in William Swinton, *Campaigns of the Army of the Potomac*, 92 (New York, 1882).

⁶⁹ Davis' speech is printed in the *Congressional Globe*, 37 Congress, 2 session, 1333-1339. A sketch of the career of Richard Buckerton Pennell, Lord Lyons, who was British minister to the United States from 1858 to 1865, appears in the *Dictionary of*

Capitol grounds to night — quite a number of spectators present. Co. E is quartered in brick house but most of the Cos. are in their tents.

Tues. Mar. 25. Made a short visit to Patent Office this morning. Saw model of *iron-clad* gunboat patented March 18th, 1862. Went down to Navy Yard in P.M. but was denied admission, having no pass. Visited Hall of Represen[tative]s House in Com'te of whole considering the "tax bill." Dress parade again on Capitol grounds.

Wed. Mar. 26. Orders given this morning for Min. 1st. to "rig up" for "grand review" by the President at 1 P.M. Gen. Gorman interferes & the thing is "quashed" after keeping us waiting till most night & thus preventing me from getting a view of certain "lions" of this city. Precious time wasted in idleness to give officers a chance to quarrel about a review. Somebody Dr. To 1 Days Time, 5.00 1st. Min. ordered to march at seven P.M. After various halts we crossed the Long Bridge & took cars from Alexandria where we arrived about 2 A.M. Thursday morning.⁶⁰ Various halts and a "right about, march" is followed by "break ranks" & every fellow hunts his own sleeping ground — many "locate" on brick side walk. This individual & P.H.T. take "military possession" of a covered wagon, "make down" our bed & take passage for the land of dreams.

Thur. Mar. 27. Awake at 8-30 A.M. & find our Regt. gone. Visit Marshall House where Col. El[is]sworth was killed & the church where Washington worshiped⁶¹ & thence proceeded to camp of 1st. Min. N. of town about one mile, where we found hot coffee & hardbread awaiting our arrival. Troops visible in every direction. McClellan reviews Div's of [blank in MS] Ordered to be ready to embark at 1 P.M. — didn't embark.

Warm to day but quite cool last night.

National Biography, 12:358. Another account of the First Minnesota in Washington is to be found in Marvin's Diary.

⁶⁰ This movement marked the beginning of McClellan's Peninsula campaign.

⁶¹ Elmer E. Ellsworth, who had gained considerable fame as drillmaster of the Chicago National Guard Cadets, a militia unit, organized a Zouave regiment among the New York volunteer firemen after the fall of Fort Sumter. When Union troops occupied Alexandria on May 24, 1861, Ellsworth entered the Marshall House there and tore a Confederate flag from its cupola, but when he went downstairs with the flag over his arm, the proprietor of the hotel shot and killed him. Both because of his prewar fame and of his personal friendship for Lincoln, the news of his death brought the war home to many Northerners. See Charles A. Ingraham, *Elmer E. Ellsworth and the Zouaves of '61* (Chicago, 1925). Christ Episcopal Church in Alexandria, which Washington attended, still stands. Mary G. Powell, *History of Old Alexandria, Virginia*, 85-94 (Richmond, 1928); Federal Writers' Project, *Washington City and Capital*, 763 (Washington, 1937).

Fri. [March] 28. In A.M. visited Ft. Elsworth⁶² & reservoir supplying the city of Alexandria with water. From parapet of Ft. E. had a delightful view of Washington, Alexandria & "pomp & circumstance of glorious war." In P.M. went down to the river to witness embarkation of troops;⁶³ also had the much coveted privilege of viewing the interior of the church in which the Father of his Country used to worship. Warm, pleasant day. Roved about yesterday & to day without a pass — once out of camp & [a] fellow is all right here. P. H. has aguechill this morning followed by considerable fever. Many of our boys are hoarse with colds since the bivouac on brick side-walk in Alexandria.

[To be continued]

⁶² Fort Ellsworth was a temporary camp outside Alexandria where Union soldiers paroled for exchange were quartered. *Official Records*, series 2, vol. 4, p. 689; William B. Hesseltine, *Civil War Prisons*, 82 (Columbus, 1930).

⁶³ The chartering of steamers and sailing vessels in which to transport the Army of the Potomac to the Virginia Peninsula had been authorized by the secretary of war a month earlier. George B. McClellan, *McClellan's Own Story*, 237 (New York, 1887).

The Minnesota Historical Society in 1943¹

Lewis Beeson

IN THE ANNUAL REPORT presented to the society a year ago, I stressed the need for adapting its activities to the changing conditions wrought by the war and I described some of the changes then in progress. These changes have continued. The most marked is in the number of visitors to the Historical Building. The decrease in attendance already apparent in 1942, the first year of the war, continued in 1943. From a total of approximately 40,000 in 1941, the number of museum visitors dropped to 35,000 in 1942 and to 21,200 in 1943. Only 816 readers used the facilities of the newspaper division in 1943, as compared with 2,205 in 1942 and 3,393 in 1941. The library served 2,456 readers during the past year, a decided drop from 3,818 in 1942 and 6,307 in 1941. The number of readers in the manuscript division decreased from 7,867 in 1942 to 4,020 in 1943, a figure still well above the 1941 total of 3,165, however, because of the continued demand for information from the census records.

Changes in personnel, while not so numerous as in the first year of the war, have still been greater than in previous years. The assistant in the newspaper division, Mr. Edward Werneke, left to enter defense work, and was replaced by Mr. Edwin Blomgren. Miss Ida Kramer and Miss Mary Spring resigned as assistants in the manuscript division, and were succeeded by Miss Eileen Longbotham and Miss Helen Gladoski. Mrs. Mary McKenney was transferred from the manuscript division to the catalogue department to replace Miss Esther Johnson, who was promoted to the position of assistant cataloguer left vacant by the resignation of Mrs. Leone Brower. Another resignation in the catalogue department was that of Mrs. Muriel Unger, catalogue typist, who has not yet been replaced. Leo Malack

¹ A report presented at the afternoon session of the ninety-fifth annual meeting of the Minnesota Historical Society in the Historical Building, St. Paul, on January 10, 1944. *Ed.*

resigned as library page to enter military service, and Alvin Krengle, assistant page, was promoted to the position of page.

In the general office personnel changes were especially numerous. Mrs. Florence Trelogan, chief clerk, resigned, and was succeeded by Mrs. Phyllis Sandstrom. Miss Helen Carlson was appointed general office stenographer after the resignation of Mrs. Mary Burda. The position of clerk typist in the office was held successively by Miss Therese Aberwald, Miss Mary Ann Fronts, and Miss Adeline Levenson; and there have been three successive general office assistants — Earl Draeger, Richard Hackman, and Mark Lindemann. In September Robert Vik was added to the staff as an additional office assistant.

The annual meeting held on January 18, 1943, was confined to two sessions instead of the four held heretofore — a luncheon meeting and a business session in the afternoon. The usual summer tour was omitted, but the society collaborated with the Washington County Historical Society in celebrating the centennial of Stillwater on August 21. Mr. Willoughby M. Babcock, curator of the museum, represented the society on the program. At an open meeting of the society's executive council on April 19, Mrs. F. R. Bigelow of St. Paul gave an illustrated talk on the history of old Prairie du Chien.

The number of talks and papers given by staff members before various groups and organizations was small in comparison with pre-war years. Most of them were presented in the Twin Cities or near by, although the acting superintendent traveled as far as Prairie du Chien and, later, to Winona to represent the society at meetings.

The collections of the society, built up year by year through careful planning, constant vigilance, and persistent effort, continue to grow. During the past year 1,722 books and 630 pamphlets, of which nearly sixty-three per cent were acquired by gift, were added to the library. Among the additions to the library's map collection were a photostat of a rare 1856 map of St. Anthony and *A New and Correct Map of the Whole World*, by Herman Moll, published in London in 1719. The Monument and the Old Trails chapters of the Daughters of the American Revolution gave several volumes as memorials to Mrs. Marshall Coolidge and Mrs. James T. Morris, and the United

Daughters of the Confederacy continued its gifts of volumes on Southern history. The society now has a library of 186,064 volumes, and 22,347 bound volumes of newspapers. The newspaper volumes added to the collections during 1943 numbered 721. Among the gifts received were a number of papers published at military camps. The collection of temperance papers was enriched by two issues for 1872 of the *Western Temperance Herald*, published in Minneapolis.

Outstanding among the 136 manuscript collections acquired in 1943 were records of the Marine lumbering firm of Judd, Walker, and Company; sixty-seven film slide rolls of correspondence of the Michigan superintendency of Indian affairs and of subordinate agencies from 1819 to 1851, all rich in Minnesota material; and some papers of William Windom, United States senator from Minnesota from 1871 to 1881 and secretary of the treasury under Garfield and Harrison, presented by his grandson, Mr. Roger Windom of Orlando, Florida.

Among the 324 gifts received for the society's museum may be mentioned four decorations presented to the late E. H. Hobe of St. Paul by the Norwegian and Swedish governments; a Jefferson Indian medal, received from an anonymous donor; an unusual and beautiful square piano of rosewood with a mother-of-pearl keyboard, the gift of Mrs. Louis W. Hill, Sr., of St. Paul; a large Swedish loom complete with fittings; and a number of additions to the military collection. Sixteen hundred and eighty-nine pictures were added to the picture collection, which now numbers 71,746 items.

Volume 24 of *Minnesota History*, the society's quarterly magazine, appeared in 1943. In its 385 pages are presented fifty-one articles and book reviews contributed by forty-one authors, including a number of widely known historians. Six of the contributors are members of the society's staff. The subject matter of the volume is varied, with articles concerned with community history, biography, cultural history of national groups, agricultural history, and Indian battles and uprisings, to mention a few. A hundred and forty-three pages of the volume are devoted to notes about items of historical interest. An important task completed during the year was the consolidation on

cards, by Mrs. Ilse Levi, of the indexes for volumes 11 to 20 of *Minnesota History*. The index would make a volume of about two hundred pages—a volume that would be extremely valuable to all students of Minnesota and Northwest history. It is to be hoped that the funds for its publication will soon be available. In addition to the four issues of the magazine, the society published eleven issues of the *Minnesota Historical News*, a clipsheet which supplies the newspapers of the state with stories of local historical interest.

The routine duties which consume by far the greater part of the staff members' time—locating and acquiring new materials for the society's collections, preparing exhibits, waiting on the public, answering requests for information by mail and telephone, recording new accessions, cataloguing, arranging and rearranging collections, filing, making indexes, and otherwise caring for the collections and making them available to the public—these have been carried on diligently and efficiently throughout the year.

Several staff members have been engaged in scholarly and professional activities in addition to their regular duties. Miss Nute prepared three articles which appeared in two periodicals, gave three addresses before various groups, and wrote a book on Lake Superior which is now in the hands of the publishers. Her book on Radisson and Des Groseilliers, *Caesars of the Wilderness*, appeared in March. She has been awarded a Rockefeller Foundation fellowship to write a book on the Minnesota iron ranges, and she has been asked to serve on the editorial board of the Society of American Archivists. Mr. Babcock, besides preparing an address for the Stillwater centennial celebration, wrote an article for publication in the *Conservation Volunteer*. Mr. Hodnefield addressed a meeting of the Washington County Historical Society and judged a school speaking contest. Miss Heilbron wrote an article for publication in *Minnesota History* and prepared the introduction and annotations for another, which was reprinted from an early Minnesota periodical. Miss Jerabek was president of the Twin City Catalogers' Round Table and of the University of Minnesota division of library instruction alumni association, she served on a committee of the Minnesota Library Association, and she contributed an article to *Minnesota History*. The acting superin-

tendent gave four addresses during the year and published an article in the *Minnesota Journal of Education*.

A serious loss has been suffered in the deaths of Edward C. Gale and William H. Bovey, members of the executive council and devoted friends of the society. The membership of the society, which a year ago amounted in all classes to 1,558, now has reached 1,609, exactly what it was at the end of 1941. This is an encouraging gain because the dislocations brought about by the war have caused many memberships to be dropped. The society, however, has not yet reached all the people who should be interested in it. The total membership should be ten times what it is now.

When I stated a year ago that institutions which do not adapt themselves to war conditions will have difficulty in surviving, I had no fear that the Minnesota Historical Society would not meet the test. As a matter of fact, the role the society has to play in wartime is as important as that which it plays in peacetime, for, as Dr. Larsen told you in his last report, "a knowledge of history, which, in time of peace is a useful tool, in time of war becomes a powerful weapon."

The war, indeed, has created an increasing interest in local history. I am sure that all of you are familiar with the discussion that has taken place in the past eighteen months with respect to the teaching of American history in the public schools. It was opened when the *New York Times* reported that a nationwide survey showed "that 82% of the institutions of higher learning in the United States do not require the study of United States history for the undergraduate degree." The newspaper deplored this situation. A knowledge of United States history, it said, helps develop good citizens, teaches the American way of life, builds civic responsibility, develops good leadership, helps the citizen to appreciate his American heritage, and gives the American boys fighting against fascism a clearer insight into the democratic traditions they are defending.

As a result of the widespread interest created by the report of the *New York Times*, a committee on American history in the schools and colleges, headed by Dr. Edgar Wesley of the University of Minnesota, tested the knowledge of American history held by selected groups and came to the conclusion that "Americans do not

know their history as well as they might." The report of this committee, which has just been published, advocates "an extensive program for the improvement of the teaching of American history in the schools and colleges of this country" and recommends a revision of the history courses now offered in elementary and high schools.

I do not believe that this society, or any organization not connected directly with our educational system, should attempt to decide how much, or in what grades, or in what manner American history should be taught in our schools. These are matters that teachers and educators should determine. Nevertheless, the society cannot and should not remain indifferent to the question raised by the *New York Times* and to the answers supplied by the committee of historians and educators.

The history of Minnesota is American history. Civic responsibility stems directly from a knowledge and understanding of the present as interpreted by the past. It is important that our citizens should know more about their own history. Our enemies have set about deliberately to split our people into various groups, religious and racial. We must continue to acquaint the people of this state with their common history. We must continue to develop in each national group a sense of the importance of its contributions to the state. We must continue, above all, to make each group familiar with the contributions of other groups. We should seek to break down differences, not to accentuate them.

To familiarize the people of the state with the history of their commonwealth and with the contributions made by its many nationalities has been one of the society's primary aims. Through talks and addresses by member of the staff, through the publication of books and articles prepared by staff members and by scholars, journalists, novelists, and the like, through a program of co-operation with the state's schools and with a network of sixty local historical societies, and through other means, the society has made an important contribution to interracial goodwill and understanding on the part of Minnesota's many foreign groups. This contribution, although it cannot be measured or weighed, is a real and effective force in Minnesota's war effort today. There can be no doubt that

the work of the society has contributed in no small measure to the magnificent unity of the various racial elements in this state in the pursuit of the war and to the failure of German propaganda to create disunity among us. A knowledge of history is a tool of war.

Thus the society, I believe, has demonstrated that it has a vital part to play in wartime. By means of its publications and by disseminating in other ways a knowledge of our institutions and their history, it has helped to create among the people of Minnesota a willingness to sacrifice for the common good. It has made very tangible contributions to the war effort by furnishing citizens with information which enables them to prove age, residence, or citizenship, by collecting and preserving records and other material relating to the activities of Minnesotans in the war, and by helping businesses and other organizations to obtain information of use in their wartime activities.

It is not, however, with the society's adaptation to wartime conditions that I am primarily concerned. It is the society's adaptation to the postwar world that concerns me most at present.

In the 1920's and 1930's this society blazed the way in developing both the specialized techniques of historical society activity and methods of increasing public interest in and knowledge of state history. Since 1913 an effective organization has been built up, a highly skilled staff has been trained, and research and scholarship have been made dominant in the society's work. At the same time its activities were broadened by establishing its magazine, founding local historical societies, conducting summer tours, publishing books on various phases of state history, and supplying newspapers with monthly news stories. The study of local history was introduced in the schools. A series of radio talks in 1932 and 1933 demonstrated how useful a medium the radio could be in popularizing history. In the period from 1915 to 1940, the scientific approach and the popularizing of state history were added to the already established programs of publication and accumulation inaugurated by the society's members and council in its earlier years.

The society is ninety-four years old. We are proud, and justly so, of the fact that it is the oldest institution in Minnesota. For a gen-

eration it has held a position of leadership among state historical societies. But leadership does not come automatically. We cannot rest upon our oars. We cannot remain content with tradition and prestige. We cannot rely upon age to protect us from the vicissitudes which time will bring. No institution can remain stationary. It goes either forward or backward.

In the postwar period the society will be judged increasingly by the service it renders to the people of the state. It is only right that an institution supported largely by legislative appropriations should be so judged. More demands will be made upon the society, and more services will be expected of it, though the normal growth of present activities will place a greater burden upon the staff. The society must increase its effectiveness in bringing to the people of Minnesota a knowledge and an understanding of their past so that they may better control their future.

In what ways can the society enlarge and extend its service to the people of Minnesota? First of all, it needs to continue its present activities. It is certain that the society cannot cease collecting material. There must be trained librarians to select new books and pamphlets and to catalogue them, and to aid and direct the public in their use. New manuscript material must be arranged and catalogued. Pictures and museum articles must be arranged, catalogued, and properly displayed. The society must maintain a trained staff sufficiently large to give its collections adequate care and to make them available to the public.

Research and scholarship must continue. Of what value is the building up of collections of books, newspapers, manuscripts, and museum objects if no use is made of them? It is true that writers, novelists, newspapermen, and students would use the collections, but if the society did not have a staff trained in historical research methods, familiar with its resources, and capable of advising and assisting those who visit its building, the latter would find our great storehouse of information a locked treasury.

Publication must continue. Through the magazine, *Minnesota History*, the society fulfills one of its essential functions—that of making the people of the state familiar with their history. This fun-

damental purpose of the society also is accomplished through the publication of such books as the *Journal* of Henry Lewis, the *Diary* of Frank B. Mayer, the *Letters* of Mrs. Swisshelm, the *Minnesota Farmers' Diaries*, and the *Voyageur's Highway*, and of a clipsheet, the *Minnesota Historical News*. Through manuals and guides like *Copying Manuscripts*, the *Care and Cataloguing of Manuscripts*, the *Bibliography of Minnesota Territorial Documents*, the *Guide to the Personal Papers* in its manuscript collections, and the volume of *Documents Relating to Northwest Missions* recently published for the Mississippi Valley Historical Association, as well as through its quarterly and the other publications mentioned, the society describes the techniques it has developed, makes known its resources, and makes available basic source materials. The dual purpose of its publications — popularization and scholarship — should be continued.

The work of scholarship and the task of expressing the fruits of research in language that the general public will understand requires a trained staff with time to discover, assimilate, and express new knowledge about the history of the state. Essential, therefore, to the proper functioning of the society is a staff large enough to care for the routine tasks of administration, custody, and service to the public, and still to have time for research and writing. Thus it is unfortunate that in recent years there has been no increase in the size of the professional staff, for this means that the expanding demands of routine have left its members with less time for research and writing. This is a serious problem for which we must seek a solution either through an appeal to the legislature or by otherwise increasing the society's income.

We must find ways to publish. As it is, several staff members have manuscripts in preparation or completed which, if published in book form, would make available to students and to the general public additional knowledge about the state. Through the public-spirited interest of one member of the society, who advanced funds to cover the cost, one of the society's most popular publications, *The Voyageur's Highway*, was made possible. Surely there are other members who could be interested in helping the society publish some of the manuscripts it has ready.

The society's program for the popularization of Minnesota history is fundamentally strong. It is worthy of support by its members, by the legislature, and by others. We need only to build upon what we have. But we must expand and develop this program. We should seek to put the society again on the air with a radio program. In fact, such a program is now under consideration. In view of the current interest in the teaching of American history, the society should extend its efforts to make available to schools material on the history of the state. It should stimulate and direct the interest of teachers and students in Minnesota history, it should give publicity to successful local history projects inaugurated by individual teachers, and it should make teachers fully aware of the value that a knowledge of local history has in the child's development.

Steps already have been taken to extend the society's activities in relation to the schools. In October the executive committee authorized the society's president, Dr. Lester B. Shippee, to appoint a committee to consider methods for better co-operation with the schools. A staff member, Miss Alma Jensen, has devoted considerable time recently to formulating a program which would place the society in closer contact with the schools. Miss Bertha Heilbron, the assistant editor of *Minnesota History*, is planning for that magazine a new series on "Minnesota History and the Schools." Teachers will be invited to contribute to the series articles about successful experiments in the teaching of local history.²

Wartime restrictions on travel have curtailed greatly the number of students and adults who visit the Historical Building to view exhibits. To combat this tendency, we should make more extensive use of our museum and other collections. In order to attract more visitors to the society's building, the customary rotation of exhibits in the cases should be continued. In addition, we might invite various groups to display articles illustrative of their experiences in Minnesota. Very interesting exhibits could be made up of material relating to the many groups that form Minnesota's population. The society could supplement from its own resources the material col-

² The first article in this series, in which a community project developed at Milaca is described by Mr. Leslie E. Westin of Stillwater, appears *post*, p. 57.

lected and brought to the Historical Building for display by such groups. Plans are being made for the rotation of picture exhibits. The society's vast picture collection will provide material for an indefinite number of changes. But exhibits should not be confined to the society's own collection; we should also invite exhibits of material owned by others. You are witnessing the first of these—a display of Miss Josephine Lutz's water colors of old Stillwater, a permanent record of that city's architectural beauty and of one phase of its cultural heritage. By displaying these pictures, the society not only has added an attractive feature to its annual meeting, but it has given recognition to a Minnesota artist for her contribution to the cause of state and local history.

The use of collections may be extended also by sending selected exhibits out into the state. Since schools in particular would benefit from this practice, the society's school committee is planning loan exhibits that can be sent to schools throughout the state. But other organizations also, such as local historical societies, might well be stimulated and helped by loan exhibits from the state society, which in turn might use loans from them.

The selection and preparation of material for exhibit purposes outside the building, however, raises questions of some intricacy and delicacy. Much of our material is not available for use outside the building because it has been placed here for permanent preservation. The task of preparing exhibits is considerable. Yet it is possible, I believe, to make a start in providing exhibits for schools, local historical societies, and other responsible institutions.

The society's accumulation of valuable historical material, whether it consists of museum objects, pictures, manuscripts, maps, newspapers, books, pamphlets, or documents, has become so vast that the space available for its safekeeping has been fully utilized. The Historical Building, which twenty-five years ago had much reserve space, is now completely filled. A solution for the problem of space must be found within a few years. Although the problem is evident in every department, it is particularly acute in the museum. The exhibit halls are overcrowded, though about ninety-eight per

cent of the museum material is not on display, and the storage rooms are filled to capacity.

These factors make desirable a review of the society's policy with respect to the acquisition of material. Perhaps we should be more selective than we have been in the past. Perhaps we should consider greater specialization with respect to the museum articles we now possess. This could be obtained through the development of branch museums, such as the Round Tower Museum at Fort Snelling, in which military objects are displayed. I see possibilities for the eventual development of branch museums in the fields of transportation, agricultural implements, and medicine, which would enable the society to segregate its material in those fields and to utilize it as a nucleus about which to build up new collections in particular fields.

The questions here raised are so important that the executive committee at its October meeting authorized Dr. Shippee to appoint a committee to advise with the staff and the executive committee on the collection, exhibition, use, and loan of museum and other material. Under the chairmanship of Miss Laura Furness, it has met and is at work.

The stimulation of interest in local history through the development of local historical societies should continue. Many of the local societies have accumulated valuable collections, have opened museum rooms, and have obtained the services of volunteer or paid workers. These societies have reached a stage of development which requires from the state society more in the way of advice and assistance than it has been able to furnish in the past. We should ask the next legislature to provide funds for a trained field worker to help local societies solve the many problems they are encountering.

Interest in local history may be stimulated through the celebration of anniversaries. Since many Minnesota communities are nearing their centennials, this interest will increase rather than decrease. The society should take the initiative well in advance of an anniversary by organizing dignified and worthwhile observances of local historic events. By calling the attention of communities to their anniversaries,

by offering to advise and assist local historical societies and civic organizations in planning for celebrations, and by helping to provide speakers and collect material for exhibits, the society can serve local communities with great effectiveness.

What the society can do to serve the people of Minnesota is limited by its present resources, which, in terms of staff and space, are now being fully utilized. Yet within the means at our disposal we should seek in every way to extend the society's service. We must utilize its prestige, its training, and its experience to give the people of Minnesota a wider knowledge of their history.

The 1944 Annual Meeting of the Minnesota Historical Society

THREE SESSIONS—a luncheon, a business meeting, and an evening gathering—constituted the ninety-fifth annual meeting of the Minnesota Historical Society, which was held in St. Paul on January 10, 1944. In view of the difficulties of transportation under wartime conditions, the local history conference, which was a regular morning feature of the society's annual meetings before 1943, and which attracted to St. Paul leaders of local historical societies from all sections of the state, was omitted. The 1944 program, therefore, opened with a luncheon in the auditorium of the Women's City Club of St. Paul, where about a hundred and twenty-five members and friends of the society assembled at 12:00 A.M. It is gratifying to be able to report that the audience included not only residents of the Twin Cities, but a number of interested people from other parts of the state.

After a few remarks about the society's fast-approaching centennial and the significance of its early organization, Judge Julius E. Haycraft, who presided, introduced the speaker, Dr. Grace Lee Nute, curator of manuscripts on the society's staff. Her subject, "The Lake That Is Superior," Judge Haycraft informed the audience, was chosen because Miss Nute recently completed a book about this largest of the Great Lakes. It was written in response to an invitation to contribute to a series, similar to the *Rivers of America*, dealing with the huge inland seas that border the United States and Canada.

Miss Nute began by raising the question "whether there really is any basis for the word 'superior' when attached" to the lake. After discussing its geology, its ore deposits, its grain shipments, and the unique boats that ply its waters, the speaker answered her question in part by asserting that Lake Superior "is the biggest, the deepest, the coldest lake of any size; it has the chief deposits of commercial iron ore; it sends a volume of trade through the Sault locks greater

than that of any three of the other canals of the world combined; and on its shores lies the greatest grain port of the world—Fort William-Port Arthur." From commercial considerations, the speaker turned to the realm of literature, giving special emphasis to the Chippewa folk tales that reached fruition in the "completely native" narrative verse of Longfellow, and mentioning the poet's debt not only to the Indians, but to Henry R. Schoolcraft, who recorded in great detail the legends of the hero Nanabazhoo. In the field of culture, also, Miss Nute mentioned the pioneer artists who left pictorial records of the Lake Superior scene and its natives—Leon Lundmark, Paul Kane, Peter Rindisbacher, and Eastman Johnson. In considering a final feature of her subject's superiority, the speaker declared that any impartial person must "give the palm for scenic beauty to Lake Superior." All this evidence of the lake's superlative qualities, however, was followed by an anticlimax, for in concluding Miss Nute pointed out that the name "is only a faulty translation" of the "Lac Supérieur" of the early French explorers, who called this inland sea the "upper lake" in order to draw attention to its geographical location beyond Lake Huron.

About forty people were in attendance when the business session convened in the auditorium of the Historical Building at 3:15 P. M. Judge Haycraft, who again served as chairman, asked Dr. Lewis Beeson, the society's acting superintendent, to read the minutes of the last meeting, and then called for memorials of two members of the executive council who died during the past year. The first, which was presented by Mr. William E. Cutler of St. Paul, commemorated the services and reviewed the career of the late Edward C. Gale of Minneapolis. Lawyer, traveler, book collector, and civic leader, Mr. Gale was a member of the society's council from 1927 until his death on September 12, 1943, and he served as its president from 1936 to 1939. The subject of the second memorial was William H. Bovey, long a leader in the flour milling industry of Minneapolis, whose membership on the council extended from 1939 to April 26, 1943. His memorial was read by Judge Kenneth G. Brill of St. Paul. Judge James E. Montague of Crookston and Mr. Bergmann Richards of Minneapolis were unanimously elected to the executive

council to fill the vacancies left by the deaths of Mr. Gale and Mr. Bovey. Following the election, the report of the treasurer was read. Since Mr. Julian B. Baird, who fills that office, was unable to be present, his report was read by another member of the council, Mr. L. A. Rossman of Grand Rapids.

To conclude the business meeting, Dr. Beeson presented his annual report. It appears in full elsewhere in this issue of *Minnesota History*. Unlike many of the reports of the society's superintendents in years past, the current statement deals not only with the organization's accomplishments during the preceding year, but with its plans for the future, particularly in the postwar period. The many concrete suggestions for future activity made by Dr. Beeson provoked a spirited discussion among members of the audience. Mr. Rossman began by expressing regret that the society has only sixteen hundred members; the number, he believes, should approach as many thousand, and there should be general participation in the society's activities on the part of the public. His theme was continued by Mrs. Grace Flandrau of St. Paul, who voiced the need for an organized membership drive. Judge Brill suggested that exhibits, talks, and meetings directed to special professional groups might serve to stimulate membership. The organization of a committee to study ways and means of increasing membership was suggested by Professor August C. Krey of the University of Minnesota, who added the idea that greater co-operation with the schools would increase the society's sphere of activity. A state-wide local history essay contest, said Dr. Krey, would be a step in the right direction. Mr. Robert S. Scott, superintendent of schools in Hennepin County, told of a Minnesota quiz in which some seven thousand school children participate each year, with the winners entering a final contest at the Minnesota State Fair, and he mentioned a special local history project that is being developed at Richfield. He then inquired about the possibility of a children's membership in the Minnesota Historical Society. Junior memberships, said the Reverend Leland R. Cooper of Minneapolis, have long been used by a Milwaukee museum, with significant returns in adult interest and membership.

The annual address, which was presented by Professor Laurence

Schmeckebier of the department of fine arts in the University of Minnesota, was the feature of the evening session in the auditorium of the Historical Building. Some seventy people heard his stimulating discussion of "Art on Main Street"; others will have an opportunity to read it in the present issue of this magazine. Professor Schmeckebier followed his address with a series of slides of frontier houses and other structures in St. Paul and Minneapolis—the concrete evidence of the Main Street art that is fast disappearing from the local scene. Unfortunately, lack of adequate funds to meet the rapidly rising cost of printing makes it impossible to reproduce the more than twenty views displayed and explained by the speaker. Among the structures illustrated were the house built by Governor Alexander Ramsey in St. Paul in 1872, one of the few pioneer buildings to be still maintained in something approaching its original state; the log chapel built on the site of St. Paul by Father Galtier in 1841; the house built by Alpheus Fuller in 1854 and later occupied by Judge Emmett, which stood in St. Paul until 1942; Daniel A. Robertson's house in 1860 and in its present dilapidated state; and the customhouse which occupied a St. Paul corner from 1868 to 1939. The speaker implied that the preservation of such buildings would enrich people's lives and help them understand their backgrounds, as well as beautify the community.

Illustrative of Professor Schmeckebier's theme, also, was the exhibit that had been installed in the auditorium for the meeting, to which he called attention upon concluding his remarks. It consisted of twenty-five pictures of old Stillwater, painted in water color by Miss Josephine Lutz, instructor in art education in the University of Minnesota. Most of her pictures represent houses or business structures erected in the pioneer period and still standing. By recording Stillwater's architectural beauty, Miss Lutz has perpetuated one aspect of the city's cultural heritage and has made a substantial contribution to the cause of state and local history. Many of those present lingered to examine and enjoy her pictures before leaving the meeting.

B. L. H.

Minnesota History and the Schools

COMMUNITY HISTORY IN THE MILACA HIGH SCHOOL¹

Leslie E. Westin

ONE OF THE major concerns of American secondary school teachers is the development of effective citizens. Today the crucial state of social conditions at home and the attacks of totalitarianism abroad make education for citizenship a vital necessity for the national welfare. In an effort to do a more competent job of education for citizenship, teachers have stressed the development of democratic procedures in the classroom, practice in the process of reflective thinking, and a more extensive study of contemporary problems. Pupils are given an opportunity to participate in proposing, planning, executing, and evaluating learning activities.

An opportunity to see and understand their own community was given the seniors in the Milaca High School in 1941-42, when they spent the entire year studying their town as a project in social science. They chose as their topic "What Makes Our Town Tick?"

The class was organized into various committees to collect material on such topics as the area, the physical setting, history, population, farms, buying and selling, manufacturing, finance, transportation, communication, occupations, distribution of wealth, standard of living, health, education, churches, government and politics, recreation, social ideas and standards, national defense, and the like.

Each committee was composed of a chairman and five members. They first read a good deal of material on their topics, and then they went out into the community to see how their findings applied to their town. The class next began to piece the entire pattern together through field trips and classroom discussions. They consulted with local businessmen to learn about their business experience; they

¹ Further details regarding this project may be obtained by addressing the author at the Stillwater High School, Stillwater, Minnesota.

asked a good many questions, and discussed each function of the community with a large number of local citizens.

Milaca is a dairy center, so the study began with a survey and personal observation of the chief industry, dairying. The students visited the local co-operative creamery, viewed it in operation, saw the making of butter, powdered milk, and other products, and then began to study the problems of dairy farming. Land and land ownership next attracted their attention, and they continued with a study of the history of the area from Milaca's founding as a lumbering village in 1885. The material uncovered for the early history of the town came from interviews with old settlers living within the area and from the files of the *Mille Lacs County Times*. A good deal of valuable information about pioneer days was discovered. In an early issue of the county paper, for example, the students learned why Milaca happened to be the county seat; they found that there was rivalry between towns, and that Milaca was chosen because it is nearer the geographic center of the county than Princeton. The students learned a good many interesting yarns, and collected pictures of the first saloon in Milaca, the Indian camps on Big Eddy Hill, lumbering activities, the Hinckley fire of September, 1894, and numerous other subjects of historic interest. The town became the curriculum, and the students with great enthusiasm and sincere interest pushed their study to find what made their town's smallest gears mesh. All the occupations within the community were studied in order to learn how the individual satisfies his wants and needs. Living standards, problems of health and education, and the local, state, and federal governments in relation to the community were observed at first hand. The class also examined local politics, recreation, social ideas, standards, and similar matters until they had the complete story of their town.

After completing their fact-finding work, the students decided to give the facts and their evaluation of them permanence. They did this by preparing a book entitled "Our Town." In their work they received the co-operation of the local newspaper, which made available all its cuts, among them some that were over fifty years old. The students at once realized that they would make the results of

their study clearer by using pictures. But how was this to be done without incurring enormous expense? They experimented with the cuts and found that they could obtain good reproductions merely by rolling printer's ink on the cuts and transferring the pictures onto sheets of paper placed over them. With a little practice, they obtained satisfactory results. The cuts were then cleaned and returned to the files. This gave the students over a hundred pictures, some measuring eight by ten inches, for their book.

Student editors and committees went to work and organized into chapters the material that they had gathered by means of interviews, personal observations, and the reading of records on such subjects as early days, population, government, clubs and lodges, transportation, economic trends, and education. When the writing was completed, three typewritten copies of the work were made, the pictures were inserted, and the manuscript was sent to Minneapolis, where for a very nominal fee a publisher put on covers and plastic bindings. Thus three copies of "Our Town" were produced. One was placed in the Milaca High School library, a second in the village library, and the third was sent on request to the Minnesota Historical Society in St. Paul.

In studying the community the class saw so much of the interior mechanism that makes it tick that they decided to film the story, thus making a movie for a public showing. This would take money, however, and since there was none available, the students had to raise it. They did so by forming a corporation and selling stock. The class was organized as a corporation, a charter and bylaws were written, and a board of directors was elected. Stock was sold for twenty-five cents a share, and bonds paying ten per cent interest were sold at fifty cents each. The corporation was capitalized at fifty dollars.

Using "Our Town" as the story, scenarios were written and scripts prepared. With a great deal of enthusiasm, but no technical knowledge, the students set out to make their movie. They borrowed sixteen-millimeter cameras from camera fans, who helped to train student cameramen. Student technicians made lighting and editing equipment from odds and ends in the industrial training classes. For

experience, they first made a short eight-millimeter film. More training in camera operations, acting, directing, cutting, and editing followed. Finally the cry "Lights! Action! Camera!" was heard, and the students exposed eighteen hundred feet of sixteen-millimeter sound film as they trained their lens on the community. The shooting of the film was the center of attention for the entire community, and excellent co-operation was obtained from everyone in town. The major share of the work was done during Easter vacation, but the students were so busy they scarcely knew there was a vacation.

A good deal of work went into the cutting, editing, musical background, sound, and narration of the film. Since so much interest had been developed in the community and county, it was very easy to sell tickets to fill to capacity the school auditorium for the showing of the film. In its technical qualities, the film far surpassed the expectations of the most optimistic parent. The students decided that the proceeds would go to the American Red Cross. The showing was a tremendous financial success, and gate receipts amounting to two hundred and fifty dollars were turned over to the Red Cross.

The results of this project reach far beyond the financial success of the film, for ninety-six students gained training in meeting people, in writing and making a book, and in motion picture techniques. As a result of the technical training received in photography, a large number of boys and girls turned to this activity as a hobby. Members of the class gained an insight into their own community that will make them more useful citizens. In addition, the entire community attained a new view of the town, and acquired pride in its past achievements and a reasonable degree of faith in its future possibilities.

Too often the pupil learns what happened a thousand years ago without learning what is happening now. He is taught to admire the wonders of Athens, Rome, and Sparta without knowing what local city councils, mayors, county commissioners, and the like really are. He is taken to visit in imagination the forum, without ever seeing with his own eyes the inside of his own city hall!

In a project of the type described herewith a good deal of caution must be exercised. First, the teacher and the class must sell the proj-

ect to the school and the community. The teacher must remember to be tactful in his research and observations. Before visiting a bank, store, factory, or court, he should make all arrangements with those in charge. Thus he will avoid disappointment and ensure appreciation of the purpose of the visit. To guard against spending a disproportionate amount of time on one aspect of the subject, it should be clearly outlined in advance. The outline of a "Community Survey of Cumberland, Wisconsin," in Edgar B. Wesley's book on *Teaching the Social Studies* (Boston, 1942), will prove very helpful. A high degree of resourcefulness on the part of the teacher, the development of reliable student leaders, and a good deal of co-operation from the community are required. The teacher must be conscious of the fact that he is teaching not just in a town but in a particular town, and he should see that his pupils, likewise, acquire an interest in the local community and have a real desire to contribute to its welfare.

Although no one wishes to inculcate in his students a blatant provincialism, everyone recognizes the emotional values that spring from local pride and a feeling of attachment to the community. That the pupils at Milaca became better citizens as a result of their participation in the community project described herewith is the belief of the writer.

Some Sources for Northwest History

THE DIGHT PAPERS

Evadene Burris Swanson

THE PAPERS of Charles Fremont Dight, recently presented to the Minnesota Historical Society, touch upon many subjects of interest in the field of local history. Dight was an eccentric and colorful individual, and his painstaking zeal in saving all his correspondence makes his collection a reservoir of information on a variety of subjects. He settled in Minneapolis in 1899, when he joined the Hamline University medical school faculty. He taught pharmacology in the University of Minnesota for a brief period, but he attracted public attention only after he was elected alderman on the Socialist ticket during the First World War. His aldermanic service was characterized by vitriolic attacks on the saloons, appeals for government ownership of public utilities, and plans for reform in city government.

Dight's name became associated in the news during this period with the curious house he had built in 1911. It was popularly called a "birdhouse" or "tree-top house," although actually it was no higher than the second story of the neighboring residences. Lacking the customary foundation or basement, it was built on iron supports, and the first floor was reached by a spiral iron staircase. The front porch was built to encircle a large tree about which a bench was fastened. It was located near Minnehaha Creek across from the Longfellow Gardens at 4818 Thirty-ninth Avenue South.

The unique character of the house added interest to Dight's reputation. In 1914, when he was a candidate for alderman, newspapers commented on the fact that ward meetings could be held under the house or under the trees and that he could address his constituents from the balcony. The *International Socialist Review*, in announcing the election of "Comrade Dight" as Minneapolis alderman, published a picture of him on his porch. A New York coffee importer who saw a picture of the house in the *New York Times* in 1925

wrote Dight for advice, as he hoped to build a birdhouse with almost "invisible supports." Dight had taught anatomy in Beirut, Syria, in the 1880's after graduating from the University of Michigan. His travels abroad gave rise to the local rumor that he got his architectural ideas from the Orient. His license to practice medicine in the Ottoman Empire was displayed in the house, adding color to his background.

In the 1920's Dight's passion for reform centered about the eugenic movement. He was the most enthusiastic founder of the Minnesota Eugenics Society, and his labors were largely responsible for the law of 1925 providing for voluntary sterilization of institutionalized feeble-minded. He continued to work for a broader law until his death in 1938.

He had no private medical practice in Minneapolis. From 1901 to 1933 he was employed as medical director of the Ministers Life and Casualty Union. By frugal living and wise investments he made a considerable fortune, which he bequeathed to the University of Minnesota as a trust fund for the study of human genetics. The annual income of about forty-five hundred dollars supports the Charles Fremont Dight Institute for the Promotion of Human Genetics, which was organized in July, 1941.

The Dight Papers, which fill thirteen filing boxes, include a few letters and other items relating to medical teaching in the early 1900's in Minnesota and to Dight's efforts to popularize medicine, but his real accomplishments were in the social, not the scientific field. He advanced a plan for socialized medicine in New Hampshire in 1893 and accepted the position with the insurance company because it fitted his socialistic principles. His interest in politics led him to follow carefully Socialist activities in the state, and his papers contain rare copies of the political platforms of a number of the party's divisions in the early 1900's. Dight astounded fellow aldermen at his first city council meeting by promising "to vote in advance against all saloon licenses to be proposed during his term." This stand brought him many congratulatory letters, among them one from W. J. Calderwood, a leader in the Minnesota temperance movement, in which Dight was much interested.

Dight served on the city council committee to assist the Minnesota Public Safety Commission in establishing potato stations in Minneapolis as a war measure in food price regulation. Municipal action was encouraged, and Dight's interest became so widely known that he received a letter from a Cass Lake merchant in March, 1918, asking for aid in disposing of several carloads of potatoes. The city council recognized his public service by naming a Minneapolis street for him in 1918.

His correspondence on the eugenic movement includes masses of letters from people throughout the state, many provoked by Dight's frequent letters to the editors of the Minneapolis newspapers. Over three hundred of his letters were published from 1921 to 1935; they aroused wide comment among those concerned with eugenics. Among the letters relating to the subject in his papers are some from Dr. William W. Folwell and the Mayo brothers. Dight's name was known in national eugenic circles. He wrote to Adolf Hitler in July, 1933, praising the German sterilization program, and he received in response a printed card with Hitler's signature, extending thanks for his friendly greeting. He corresponded with Alexis Carrel, Margaret Sanger, and Mrs. J. Borden Harriman on various aspects of the eugenic field. The Dight collection is a repository of information on the history of the Minnesota Eugenics Society. The charter, minutes of meetings, lists of members, treasurers' reports, correspondence of officers, and records of business conducted were kept by Dight with his personal papers. He was the one president of the society during its active period, and he preserved its archives when interest in its objectives faded.

The Dight Papers are so comprehensive and complete that they reveal Dight's career in the minutest detail. He participated with characteristic enthusiasm in the activities to forward such diverse projects as technocracy, communal farm colonies, a just tax league, the Unitarian Society, and the temperance movement. He was an inventor of sorts, but his consuming interest was to impress upon people "the importance of race betterment through eugenics," and to this aim he dedicated his life.

Reviews of Books

Freedom's Ferment: Phases of American Social History to 1860. By ALICE FELT TYLER. (Minneapolis, The University of Minnesota Press, 1944. x, 608 p. Illustrations. \$5.00.)

"I too," announced the magnificently expansive Whitman, "I too, following many and followed by man, inaugurate a new religion." With equal self-assurance, Henry Thoreau seceded, in mind if not in body, from the United States and inaugurated his new state at Walden Pond. As the majority of the freedom-seekers with whom Mrs. Tyler is concerned felt nothing of the suspicious fear of parties and organizations which marked the thinking of Whitman and Thoreau, they commonly gathered together a motley company of fellow pilgrims on their journeys toward their respective New Jerusalems.

These pilgrims traveled so far and so fast in so many directions that the fundamental pattern underlying their movements is not easy to discern. Numerous biographies of individual crusaders and numerous monographs on individual crusades have illuminated many highways and byways of reform. Now, with sound scholarship and an unobtrusive sense of humor, Mrs. Tyler gives us a most illuminating overview of the whole. In her pages, the pattern emerges clearly.

The volume falls into three sections: an admirable summary of political and social trends during the seventeenth and the eighteenth century, an examination of cults and utopias from the early nineteenth century to 1860 (transcendentalism, millennialism, spiritualism, Mormonism, and a variety of communal enterprises), and a review of antidemocratic agitations and of humanitarian crusades during the same period in the fields of education, prison systems, temperance, peace, women's rights, and slavery. At appropriate points Mrs. Tyler introduces into the general narrative pertinent details from the lives of her reformers, great and small — spectacular Frances Wright and grim Sojourner Truth; patient Robert Owen of New Harmony and the incendiary David Walker, free Negro and Boston old-clothesman; Sarah Josepha Hale, who crusaded successfully for medical education for women and the abolition of pie for breakfast; and all the rest.

For these "madmen, madwomen, men with beards, Groaners, Quakers, Agrarians, Abolitionists, Unitarians, and Philosophers," as Emerson

characterized them (and he included himself), Mrs. Tyler reveals the same tolerance which the majority of us Midwestern democrats feel for reformers, particularly if they are safely incarcerated in the past. If certain of us do not share to the full her confidence in the ultimate wisdom and sanity of the common man, we nevertheless envy her that faith.

The text of *Freedom's Ferment* is supplemented by many illuminating and attractive illustrations and supported by extensive footnotes and specialized bibliographies helpfully assembled, chapter by chapter, at the end of the volume. Even under wartime restrictions, Miss Jane McCarthy of the University of Minnesota Press has designed and produced a handsome book, such as the publishing world in general and Minnesotans in particular have learned to expect from her.

Freedom's Ferment is so readable that the literate public will enjoy it, and yet so freshly informative that historians will employ it to reorient their own knowledge. Most of all it will be welcomed by students of American civilization—that is, by those of us who are attempting to interpret the history of America at once in human and in humane values.

TREMAINE McDOWELL

The Pageant of Canadian History. By ANNE MERRIMAN PECK. (New York, Longmans, Green and Co., 1943. xii, 370 p. Illustrations, map. \$3.00.)

Canada's war effort, its co-operation with the United States in the defense of North America, and recent developments in its economic and political life have attracted considerable attention beyond its borders. A number of books designed to appeal to this interest have appeared during the last four years, of which Mrs. Peck's is one of the latest. This book is not presented as a contribution to historical research but as a popular survey—an attempt to depict Canadian history as a vivid and dramatic story, after the manner of the author's short history of South America. The historical sections are followed by several chapters describing the contemporary scene.

Mrs. Peck's pleasing narrative style appears to best advantage in her lively descriptions of life in the French period and of the deeds of the fur traders and explorers. The effort to solve the problems of selection and summary involved in a work of this type has not been entirely successful; this is particularly evident in the chapters dealing with the history of the last hundred years. Brevity has in some instances taken the form of in-

adequate discussion or superficial generalization, as in the treatment of the Confederation movement. The results of recent research do not seem to have been consistently consulted: several chapters would have benefited from an examination of A. S. Morton's work on the early history of Western Canada; and there is no reference in the bibliography to the important volumes in the *Relations of Canada and the United States* series. *The Pageant of Canadian History* falls below the high level of accuracy and penetrating comment established by other recent surveys of Canadian history and current affairs, particularly A. L. Burt's *Short History of Canada for Americans* and W. H. Chamberlin's *Canada Today and Tomorrow*.

LEWIS H. THOMAS

The Other Side of Main Street: A History Teacher from Sauk Centre.

By HENRY JOHNSON, professor emeritus of history, Teachers College, Columbia University. (New York, Columbia University Press, 1943. viii, 263 p. \$2.75.)

The old familiar American story makes good reading still. Henry Johnson did not rise from log cabin to White House, but to the equivalent perhaps in his chosen profession — the professorship of history at Teachers College in Columbia University.

Mr. Johnson does not suggest it, would not probably, but one may wonder whether his early and continued interest in American history was not a kind of unconscious expression of the immigrant's desire to belong. For Henry Johnson was born Henrik Jönson in Norra Rörum, Sweden, and although his parents brought him to America while he was still an infant, he was throughout his childhood and youth in Sauk Centre, Minnesota, made to feel excluded from the society of the elect because his family were "nothing but Swedes." He was a man grown, he confesses, before he sloughed off this sense of inferiority and developed any sort of pride in his ancestry, and then it was too late for him to become at home in either the Swedish language or the Swedish tradition. America's culture must always be the poorer for the multiplied instances of such individual loss.

Minnesota places and personalities fill the story during the first thirty years, from 1870 to 1899. There is Sauk Centre, of course, glimpsed through the Johnson boy's odd jobs and succession of employers. There is also the University of Minnesota, which young Henry was warned against

as a "godless institution filled with perils for the young," but which he found quite otherwise in compulsory attendance at daily chapel services and in mathematics classes that opened with prayer. There he came to know President Cyrus Northrop, William Watts Folwell, John Dewey, and Maria Sanford, whose plan for inaugurating the world's first school of journalism young Johnson inadvertently spoiled by confiding it prematurely to a fellow reporter on the *St. Paul Pioneer Press*.

Albert Lea appears because Johnson went there to teach school as a rest from strenuous labors as a court reporter and assistant city editor on the *Minneapolis Tribune*. At Rushford he served two years as superintendent of schools, and at Moorhead he combined the teaching of history in the normal school with fruitful service as city alderman in a reform government pledged to repair the city's damaged credit. In Moorhead then the chief occupation was "catering to alcoholic thirsts," and the larger Fargo across the river in "dry" North Dakota cynically regarded its Minnesota sister as "a segregated suburb for indulgences not tolerated in Fargo itself." There Johnson won the friendship of S. G. Comstock, father of Minnesota's and Radcliffe's Ada Comstock, and of Livingston C. Lord, widely revered president of the Moorhead State Normal School.

With Mr. Lord, Johnson moved to the normal school at Charleston, Illinois, and from there, after a year of study at Columbia and another abroad divided between Paris and Berlin, to the "higher assignment" at Teachers College. History students will relish his chapters on Columbia and Europe for their thumbnail portraits of classic figures in historiography: James Harvey Robinson, Herbert L. Osgood, William A. Dunning, John Basset Moore, and a number of others. Good old Langlois and Seignobos there become thoroughly human.

There is something a trifle ironic perhaps in the fact that, thanks largely to the efforts of his colleagues at Teachers College, it would today be impossible for Henry Johnson to teach school; he had only one brief course in pedagogy at the University of Minnesota. Throughout his teaching career Johnson sought and held a middle ground between the demands of the scholars and the demands of the educators, being always more than a little suspect in both camps of this long-standing academic battle. He sees grounds for criticism on both sides and does not hesitate to poke fun at the educational theorists, finding their new ideas very old indeed, and all of them quite readily reducible to the simple maxim that good teaching consists of "getting what is taught into the direct experience of the pupil." It is his opinion that the greatest contribution history

can make to education lies in the ideals of scholarship, and these, he says and demonstrates, can be adapted to instruction at any level.

What has all this to do with Main Street, either side? Very little, really. Mr. Johnson's story can carry its title only by far-stretched implication and by grace of the superficial and fortuitous fact that its author and Sinclair Lewis both came from Sauk Centre. There is an "other side of Main Street," of course. And in the stock-taking now haphazardly under way among our people there is room for a sound, serious appraisal of the strengths and virtues to be set against the faults of rural and small-town America. After all, a goodly number of Americans live on Main Street, and the other side of that street is the other side of a sizable and significant segment of the American character and the American way of life.

But Mr. Johnson's "bit of autobiography" provides no such appraisal. Nor, I am sure, did its author intend it to. True, in one chapter, from which the book's title is taken, Mr. Johnson names and characterizes certain persons and institutions in Sauk Centre which he would place on the other side of Main Street, but he could hardly have meant this pleasant figure of speech to be taken as anything more than a graceful tribute. If the crudities and cruelties and stifling limitations of Lewis' side of Main Street are to be counterbalanced, it must be by factors more general and more fundamental than a few individual citizens who dress well, who know their way around metropolitan capitals, and who have a scholar's knowledge of history and literature. It must be something more, even, than an occasional one of Main Street's children who makes good—unless it is clear that he does so because of his years on Main Street and not in spite of them.

HELEN CLAPESATTLE

The Wisconsin Pine Lands of Cornell University: A Study in Land Policy and Absentee Ownership. By PAUL WALLACE GATES. (Ithaca, New York, Cornell University Press, 1943. xi, 265 p. Illustrations. \$3.50.)

Slowly, but yet surely, essential studies are being made, having to do with strictly local phases of federal land policies and operations, and thus the way is being prepared for the eventual writing and publication of a truly definitive work relating to the history of the public domain. In the Middle West, Louis Pelzer at the University of Iowa has promoted researches among some of his graduate students in recent years with signifi-

cant results. Another active contributor to the same desired end is Paul M. Gates, the author of the present story of the Cornell University pine land grants in the Chippewa River district of Wisconsin.

Again, as in previous studies dealing principally with railroad grants, Dr. Gates displays his ability to handle the highly complicated land problem with thoroughness and intelligence, as well as to write entertainingly. A well-conceived organization of materials and, particularly, several carefully planned summary tables, a good map, and six interesting illustrations are features that make for an effective presentation of the subject. The first four introductory chapters, totaling eighty-nine pages, treat of the general situation in Wisconsin regarding the public domain to approximately 1865. Then follow accounts of the establishment of the Cornell grants—apparently the work mainly of William A. Woodward and Henry C. Putnam—and of the involved economic, social, and political consequences of attempting to take and to hold one-half million acres of rich timber resources under a system of absentee ownership.

For the student of land history the pattern is a familiar one—the constant struggle between those seeking to ensure fair and democratic administration of laws and policies liberally conceived for the disposal of the public lands and the selfish, and oftentimes corrupt and sordid, “interests” who, using techniques perfected by repeated experiences in one frontier after another west of the Ohio River, were always hunting for ways and means to circumvent public rights and to squander the national heritage for self-aggrandizement. The plan to bestow a part of the public wealth, in the form of land grants or subsidies, whether upon railroad corporations developing new transportation routes into the wilderness or upon institutions organized for higher education, was one, in theory, seemingly justifiable from many standpoints. But, in practice, the plan never appeared to work out as intended, partly because efforts to “locate” huge tracts of land in a given area always brought promoters of such enterprise into conflict with individual claimants; partly, too, because land speculators always seemed to play a large role in these operations and to grab off advantages for themselves; and, moreover, partly because in quieting titles, there were usually long delays during which the local government lost heavily in taxes as a result of inability promptly to determine the legal owners. Especially was this true in the case of forest lands, where lumber interests often managed to cut the valuable stands of timber long before such questions were settled.

Whether men like Putnam and Woodward, or others connected with

the Cornell grants, such as Ezra Cornell himself, or Henry W. Sage, or Charles S. Sargent, or Cyrus Woodman, were unscrupulous scalawags or far-seeing empire builders, the historian must judge. Dr. Gates has helped to the extent of patiently presenting the evidence, and for that he deserves our gratitude.

VERNE E. CHATELAIN

Peter Melendy: The Mind and the Soil. By LUELLA M. WRIGHT. (Iowa City, The State Historical Society of Iowa, 1943. 360 p. Portrait. \$2.00.)

Melendy is probably little remembered outside of Iowa, his adopted state. In his native Cincinnati, he assisted in his family's fanning mill factory, followed his father's interest in improved livestock, and developed an experimental farm of more than local interest and significance on the edge of the city. Due to his New England background, the early chapters of his life naturally include data on the educational opportunities of the time and the church cleavages resulting from the slavery question.

In 1857, Melendy removed to Iowa to further the activities of a farming and stockbreeding company that had acquired land in Cedar Valley, but the objectives of this project proved premature. He then turned his energies to the upbuilding of Cedar Falls as an agricultural, industrial, and cultural center and to the promotion of agricultural journalism, fairs, and education and of railroad construction in the state. Needless to say, Melendy was an ardent Republican whose organizational activities were rewarded with appointments as United States marshal and as quartermaster in the department of war. His last years were devoted to the civic affairs of Cedar Falls, where he died in 1901.

The subject of this biography is representative of a large number of leaders with more than local significance who merit carefully prepared biographies of possibly as many as a hundred and fifty pages, and the specifications for this particular type of historical research deserve more thought and attention than they have thus far received. Among other things, the discerning utilization of the extant histories of the subjects involved in the careers to be sketched should result in more balance and modesty in the final products and simultaneously should enhance the possibility of their contributing to the careful delineation of the national scene. This particular study can be criticized to a slight degree in the light of these generalizations, but broadly speaking, it is satisfactory.

EVERETT E. EDWARDS

Old Man River: The Memories of Captain Louis Rosché, Pioneer Steamboatman. By ROBERT A. HEREFORD. (Caldwell, Idaho, The Caxton Printers, Ltd., 1943. 301 p. Illustrations. \$3.50.)

Here is the story of Louis Rosché, who began his steamboat career as a twelve-year-old cabin boy and deck sweep aboard the "Adriatic" in 1864. During the next thirty-two years Rosché rose from second mate to captain of the "J. J. O'Dill," a diminutive craft plying in the Calhoun County apple trade until it was wrecked in the St. Louis cyclone of 1896. Although Rosché did not die until 1937, the author found little worth recounting that occurred after the cyclone abruptly ended his river career when he was only forty-four years old.

The setting for most of *Old Man River* is the lower Mississippi and Missouri rivers. After serving as cabin boy aboard both a Union troopship and a Confederate packet, Louis Rosché entered the Missouri River trade in 1866 aboard the "Wm. J. Lewis," making the trip to Fort Benton in about nine weeks and steaming back in a little more than two. After a few seasons on the Missouri, Rosché shifted to the lower Mississippi, where he met Captain Horace Bixby aboard the "Oceanic." Next he became second mate on the "Dexter" in the St. Louis-New Orleans trade. One of the best stories in the book tells of the race between the "Dexter" and the "Frank Pargoud" from New Orleans to Greenville, Mississippi.

A skillful narrator with a genuine love for his subject, the author relates many yarns of hard-bitten river men. A forty-page chapter entitled "Madame Moustache" deals with colorful women along the vast waterway from the Crescent City to Fort Benton. There are stories of steamboat explosions and steamboat races, of gambling, fighting, riots, and mutiny. Some of the best scenes are laid about the numerous woodyards strung along the Mississippi and the Missouri in the heyday of steamboating. Less effective are the numerous yarns spun by the Negro named "Snowball."

Old Man River will prove interesting to the layman enthusiastic about Mississippi lore. The historian will find little to reward his reading, for the author depends largely on Captain Rosché's reminiscences of incidents that occurred half a century earlier. Both footnotes and an index are lacking, and the bibliography is inadequate. There is nothing of significance relating to Minnesota and the upper Mississippi.

WILLIAM J. PETERSEN

Minnesota Historical Society Notes

THE SOCIETY suffered a serious loss in the death on February 9 at Delray Beach, Florida, of its president, Dr. Lester B. Shippee. Dr. Shippee, who was professor of history in the University of Minnesota and chairman of his department, had been a member of the society's executive council since 1924. He became a vice-president in 1936, and he was elected to the presidency on January 12, 1942.

In order to encourage the study of local history in the schools of Minnesota, to make its study more interesting, to furnish material for classroom use, and to acquaint teachers and students with the resources available in their own communities, the society has inaugurated a service for schools. Miss Alma M. Jensen, who has had wide experience as a teacher of history and educational methods in the St. Cloud State Teachers College, the State College of Education at Greeley, Colorado, and other schools and colleges in Minnesota, North and South Dakota, and Pennsylvania, is directing the new activity. A committee consisting of Professors Horace T. Morse, August C. Krey, and Edgar B. Wesley of the University of Minnesota, the Reverend James L. Connelly of St. Paul, and Mr. Harvey D. Jensen, superintendent of schools at International Falls, will work with Miss Jensen in an effort to link the program of the society with that of the schools. As one feature of the society's school program, a series of articles on "Minnesota History and the Schools" will be published in this magazine. Several teachers who have successfully conducted local history projects in Minnesota schools have been invited to contribute descriptive accounts of their experiences. The first article in this series appears elsewhere in the present issue.

Captain Arthur J. Larsen, who is on leave as superintendent of the society, is now stationed in Washington, where he is serving as assistant historical officer of the Army Air Transport Command.

The acting superintendent is serving as a member of the committee on state and local war records of the American Association for State and Local History. Dr. Lester J. Cappon of the University of Virginia is chairman of the committee, which plans to issue a monthly circular in mimeographed form, to be known as the "War Records Collector." Dr.

Beeson also is a member of the nominating committee of the Association for State and Local History.

Miss Marjorie Edgar's article on "Finnish Proverbs in Minnesota," which appeared in the issue of this magazine for September, 1943, is the point of departure for an editorial entitled "Wanted: A New Proverb," appearing in the *St. Paul Pioneer Press* for November 13. "'A bear has bear's cubs,' reasoned Finland's leaders, as they led the nation into its present predicament," reads the editorial, quoting one of Miss Edgar's proverbs. But, it continues, "If they had remembered another Finnish axiom, 'Big fish eat little fish,' they might have thought twice before giving themselves into the power of Hitler."

The thirty-seven additions to the society's active membership in the three months from October 1 to December 31 include a life member, Quincy H. Hale of La Crosse, Wisconsin, a sustaining member, Martin F. Ernst of St. Paul, and the following annual members: Paul W. Anderson of St. Paul, Mrs. Judson W. Bishop of Osseo, Mrs. Everett C. Blomgren of Hibbing, Mrs. Alf. E. Boyesen of St. Paul, Mrs. Liva Dodge of Truman, Milton P. Firestone of St. Paul, John W. Furber of Minneapolis, Mrs. E. H. Gipson of Faribault, Miss Emma Glaser of Stillwater, Walter G. Goldman of Minneapolis, Joseph Gregorich of Detroit, Michigan, Benjamin G. Griggs of St. Paul, W. E. Hanson of Braham, Edward W. Hawley of Minneapolis, I. G. Haycraft of Kensington, Maryland, Allen W. Heddle of Minneapolis, Harrison C. Hobart of St. Paul, Dr. H. H. Holliday of Tenafly, New Jersey, Melvin B. Holmgren of Minneapolis, Louis A. Hubachek of Minneapolis, Miss Alma M. Jensen of Minneapolis, Harvey D. Jensen of International Falls, Carl M. Knudson of Minneapolis, George B. Leonard of Minneapolis, Mrs. M. H. Manuel of Ames, Iowa, Mrs. R. Buchanan Morton of St. Paul, Willis K. Nash of Minneapolis, Miss Bernice Newell of Minneapolis, John J. Newton of Spartanburg, South Carolina, Dr. Frederick H. K. Schaaf of Minneapolis, Norman Sefer of Minneapolis, Gustaf A. Swanson of Savannah, Georgia, Albin Widen of Minneapolis, Charles J. Winton, Jr., of Minneapolis, and Joseph M. Witmer of Hopkins.

During the last quarter of 1943 the society lost four active members by death: Charles H. Bigelow of St. Paul and Dr. Louis B. Wilson of Rochester on October 5, Miss Lillian Turnblad of Minneapolis on October 19, and the Rev. Humphrey Moynihan of Minneapolis on December 24.

The acting superintendent spoke on "The Use of Microfilm by the Minnesota Historical Society" before the Minnesota chapter of the Special Libraries Association in St. Paul on October 12, on the work that can be accomplished by a local historical society before the Olmsted County Historical Society at Rochester on October 26, and on the reasons for collecting war records before the Winona War History Committee at Winona on November 18.

The Minnesota sections of the annual volumes for 1943 of the *Statesman's Year Book*, the *Britannica Book of the Year*, and *Collier's Year Book* have been revised by Mrs. Warming.

CONTRIBUTORS

In his capacity as chairman of the department of fine arts in the University of Minnesota, Professor Laurence Schmeckebier has done much to promote interest in Minnesota art and its history. He encouraged one of his students to write the article on LeRoy S. Buffington's influence on Minneapolis architecture, which appeared in the issue of this magazine for September, 1942. Dr. Schmeckebier's present discussion of "Art on Main Street" as exemplified in the Twin Cities was prepared for presentation as an illustrated address before the society's annual meeting on January 10, 1944. Among Dr. Schmeckebier's publications are a volume on *John Steuart Curry's Pageant of America*, issued last year by the American Artists Group, and a study of *Modern Mexican Art*, published by the University of Minnesota Press in 1939.

The first installment of a diary kept by Isaac L. Taylor while serving in the Civil War appears in the current issue under the title "Campaigning with the First Minnesota." The introduction and annotations are the work of Miss Hazel C. Wolf, a teacher of history in the Manual Training High School of Peoria, Illinois. She is a graduate of the Bradley Polytechnic Institute of Peoria, and she received a master's degree in history in the University of Wisconsin in 1941. Her graduate work has centered largely about the period of the Civil War and reconstruction. She is the author of an unpublished thesis on "The Civil War Governors and Emancipation," and she is now engaged in a study of the martyrs of the American abolition movement. Installments of the Taylor Diary will continue to appear in *Minnesota History* throughout 1944.

The society's acting superintendent, Dr. Lewis Beeson, prepared the

report on its activities in 1943 which appears in this issue. The annual meeting of 1944 is described by the assistant editor of this magazine, Miss Bertha L. Heilbron.

Inaugurating a new series on "Minnesota History and the Schools" is Mr. Leslie E. Westin, instructor in social science in the Stillwater High School. He tells herein of his work in teaching "Community History in the Milaca High School" in 1941-42. He is now engaged in a similar project at Stillwater, where his students are working on the youth of the day under the title "We Are Tomorrow." Dr. Evadene Burris Swanson, who contributes a discussion of "The Dight Papers" to the section devoted to "Sources for Northwest History," is now engaged as a research assistant in the department of fine arts in the University of Minnesota. She is the author of a sketch of Dr. Dight in the first of the *Bulletins* published by the Dight Institute of the university, and of a number of articles and reviews appearing in this magazine and in the *Conservation Volunteer*.

The authors who contribute book reviews to the present issue include Dr. Tremaine McDowell, professor of English in the University of Minnesota, whose article on "Regionalism in American Literature" appeared in the June, 1939, number of this magazine; Lewis H. Thomas, a Canadian student from the University of Saskatchewan, who is now pursuing graduate studies in history in the University of Minnesota; Miss Helen Clapesattle, editor for the University of Minnesota Press and secretary of a university committee that is administering a Rockefeller Foundation grant for the encouragement of regional writing on the upper Northwest; Mr. Verne E. Chatelain of Washington, a former Minnesotan who served as director of the St. Augustine historical program; Everett E. Edwards, a member of the staff of the bureau of agricultural economics in the United States department of agriculture; and Dr. William J. Petersen, research associate for the State Historical Society of Iowa and a member of the history faculty in the University of Iowa.

ACCESSIONS

Three letters written in 1836 and 1837 by Joseph N. Nicollet to Dr. Rush Nutt of Rodney, Mississippi, have been copied for the society by the photostatic process from the originals in the possession of the State Historical Society of Wisconsin. Two of the letters were written from Fort Snelling and the third was penned at St. Louis; all relate to Nicol-

let's explorations in Minnesota, particularly about the headwaters of the Mississippi. Mentioned in the letters are the loss of three boxes of recently collected data, the detailed map that the explorer had drawn, and the knowledge of the Dakota and Ojibway languages that he was acquiring. Nicollet expresses the hope that his correspondent will excuse his boldness in naming a body of water shown on his chart "Lake Rush Nutt."

A copy of a diary kept at Duluth in 1869 by the Reverend William Higgins, a pioneer Presbyterian minister, has been presented by the Duluth Public Library, through the courtesy of Miss Jane Morey. The copy was made by workers engaged in a local WPA project. It contains much valuable material on pioneer life at the head of the lakes.

Life in the family of a Minnesota missionary to the Sioux, the Reverend Jedediah Stevens, is described in a typewritten manuscript of forty-seven pages, a copy of which has been presented by Mr. Lester Le Vesconte of Elmhurst, Illinois. One of his ancestors, Janie Bartolf Gibbs, lived with the Stevens family and came to Minnesota with its members. The narrative seems to be partly historical and partly fictional in character.

Letters written in 1880 and 1881 by Mrs. William Windom to her son, William D. Windom, are among items recently added to the Windom Papers by Mr. Roger L. Windom of Orlando, Florida (see *ante*, 24: 246, 355). In the earlier letter, which is a photostat, she tells of the Republican national convention of 1880; in the later letter she describes a reception in the executive mansion, during which she received with the President and Mrs. Garfield.

Some records of the St. Paul Turnverein and the West Side Turnverein have been presented by Mr. George Heideman of St. Paul. They consist of seven items relating to the years from 1893 to 1912. Included are lists of members, insurance premiums, and real-estate holdings of the St. Paul organization, and an inventory of the possessions of the West Side society. A flag made for the St. Paul Turnverein in 1860 is the gift of its president, Mr. Herman Mueller of St. Paul.

A list of ships and barges employed by Mr. Percy M. Shaw of Duluth in shipping lumber by way of the Great Lakes to eastern markets is included among some items from his papers, consisting of about a hundred pages, that have been copied for the society through his courtesy by the photostatic process. Since it is arranged alphabetically, the list

provides a convenient record of many of the lumber hookers that were once a feature of Lake Superior transportation. The number of board feet included in each shipment and the date on which it was made also appear in the record. Other items of information to be found in these papers, which cover the period from 1895 to 1925, are lists of lumber mills that operated in or near Duluth or that shipped lumber to that city. Mr. Shaw played a prominent role in the history of lumber exporting from Duluth, handling about forty-two per cent of the total shipments in the period covered by his papers.

Two letters written in 1898 by Fred Thompson while serving with Company M of the Thirteenth Minnesota Volunteer Infantry in the Spanish-American War have been presented by Mr. Willis H. Miller of Hudson, Wisconsin.

A photostatic copy of a genealogical chart showing the descendants of Norman W. Kittson, an important Minnesota fur trader and transportation magnate, is the gift of Mr. Frederick S. Kittson of Philadelphia.

Thirteen short papers on topics relating to local history, prepared by members of the Minnesota Daughters of the American Revolution and submitted by its literary and historical reciprocity committee, have been presented by the chairman of the committee, Mrs. Walter H. Wheeler of Minneapolis. Among the subjects discussed are "Historic Spots in Minnesota" and "The Story of the National Colony."

A valuable addition to the society's extensive collection of Minnesota territorial documents is a copy of *The Proposed Constitution of the State of Minnesota, Adopted in Convention on Friday, August 28, 1857* (St. Paul, 1857), which has been presented by the St. Paul Public Library. This pamphlet of fifteen pages, which was printed by Owens and Moore, contains the version of the constitution adopted by the Republican constitutional convention. The names of its members follow the text of the constitution; after their names appears a list of the members of the Democratic convention. Another gift from the St. Paul Public Library is a state document that was not previously available in the society's collection—a *Report of the Special Committee on Text Books, Presented to the Senate of Minnesota, February 17th, 1876* (11 p.).

A Peace and Friendship medal issued in 1801 on behalf of President Jefferson has been presented to the society by an anonymous donor. There

is evidence that the medal was presented to Red Wing, the chief of the Sioux village on the site that now bears his name, by Lieutenant Zebulon M. Pike in 1806. The medal and its history will be described in full in a later issue of *Minnesota History*. It is now on display, with other Peace and Friendship medals from the society's collection, in a case on the second floor of the Historical Building. A brief account of the medal appears in the *St. Paul Pioneer Press* for November 21.

The insignia of three ranks of the Royal Order of St. Olav and a medal of the Royal Order of Vasa, bestowed upon the late E. H. Hobe of St. Paul between 1903 and 1939 by the Norwegian and Swedish governments, have been presented to the society. Upon the death of the recipient, such insignia are usually returned to the governments that confer them; in this case, however, members of the Hobe family received special permission from the Norwegian and Swedish departments of foreign affairs to turn the medals over to the society. They were presented in a formal ceremony at the home of Mrs. Hobe in St. Paul on November 26. Participating were Mr. Carl G. O. Hansen of Minneapolis, who explained the significance of the Norwegian insignia and described the circumstances under which they were conferred upon Hobe in appreciation for his services as Norwegian consul at St. Paul; Mr. Jacob Stefferud and Mr. Carl F. Hellstrom of Minneapolis, Norwegian and Swedish consuls, respectively, who represented their governments and made the presentations; and the society's president, the late Lester B. Shippee, who accepted this unusual gift.

Bronze presidential medals issued for the administrations of William Howard Taft and Theodore Roosevelt have been presented by Mrs. Mary McKenny of North St. Paul.

A Wheeler and Wilson sewing machine of a type patented in 1852 is the gift of Messrs. H. and Val J. Rothschild of St. Paul. Among other recent additions to the domestic life collection are a mantel clock from Dr. Irene P. McKeehan of Boulder, Colorado, and a pair of terra-cotta vases of Greek design that belonged to the late Nellie Cardozo of St. Paul, from Mrs. Robert Rosenthal of St. Paul. Mrs. Rosenthal also has presented a woman's linen duster used for motoring in the first decade of the present century.

An officer's sabre and two sashes used with dress uniform by Brigadier General Samuel P. Jennison in the Civil War have been presented by

Mrs. James Jennison of Minneapolis. Several articles of military equipment from the First World War, including trench helmets, bayonets, canteens, and gas masks, and a number of native Philippine weapons are the gifts of Miss Kathleen B. Dowling of Minneapolis.

An oil portrait of the late Sylvanus A. Stockwell of Minneapolis, painted by Cameron Booth for the Saturday Lunch Club, was presented to the society by that organization in a special ceremony held at the Historical Building on November 26. Judge Vince Day and Mr. B. H. Bowler spoke briefly; Mr. Homer Morris unveiled the portrait and made the presentation; and Senator Victor Lawson, a member of the society's executive council, accepted it.

Logging scenes on the St. Croix River are depicted in two photographs presented by Mr. Robert Crozier of Portland, Oregon. Several early views of Minneapolis and some portraits of Minnesota Sioux and Chipewewa Indians are the gifts of Dr. J. F. Corbett of Minneapolis.

Recently acquired publications of patriotic societies include volume 6 of the *Lineage Books* of the National Society of the Daughters of American Colonists (Washington, 1943. 386 p.); the *First Supplement to the Register of 1926* issued by the Order of the Founders and Patriots of America (1940), and the *Fiftieth Anniversary Report* of the Minnesota state society of the United States Daughters of 1812 (Minneapolis, 1942. 141 p.). The latter volume contains information about several soldiers of the War of 1812 who are buried in Minnesota. Volume 8 of the *American Genealogical Index*, in which surnames from Cook to Cyrus are indexed, has also been added recently to the society's collection.

Descendants of the Pond brothers, pioneer missionaries to the Minnesota Sioux, are traced at length in a recently acquired volume issued by the Minnesota chapter of the Pond Family Association of America. It is entitled *Genealogy of Elnathan Judson Pond, 1769-1845*, and it was prepared by Lyndsay K. Ritchie (Minneapolis, 1943. 55 p.). Another Minnesota family is the subject of a volume on the *Boutell and Allied Families*, issued by the American Historical Society (New York, 1935. 101 p.). Other genealogies recently received include: *Ashbrook Family* by Helen Hutchcraft and Julia S. Ardery (Paris, Kentucky, 1943. 4 p.); *Family History* by Mary K. A. Casper and Mabel E. Ashley (Washington, 1943. 153 p.); *Axtell Tercentenary, 1643-1943* by Carson A. Axtell (New Bedford, Massachusetts, 1943. 28 p.); *The Benjamins of Cecil County*,

Maryland by Harvey N. Brown (Long Island City, New York, 1943. 11 p.); *A Colonial History and Genealogy of the Bickleys, Gardners, Polegreens, Millers, Dottins, Husbands* by Marion G. Deavenport (Rochester, New York, 1942. 170 p.); *A Brief Sketch of Family History of Walter W. Cornell* by Walter W. Cornell (Pawnee City, Nebraska, 1943. 39 p.); *The Crowthers of Fountain Green, Utah* by William O. Crowther (Independence, Missouri, 1943. 340 p.); *Dann and Montgomery Chronicles* by Harvey M. Dann (New York, 1943. 160 p.); volume 1 of the *Dawes-Gates Ancestral Lines* by Mary W. Ferris (Milwaukee, 1943. 748 p.); *The William Fleming Family, With a Brief Account of Some Other Flemings of Delaware* by Franklin M. Brand (Charleston, West Virginia, 1941. 652 p.); *Ralph Hemenway of Roxbury, Mass. 1634 and His Descendants* by Clair A. H. Newton (Naperville, Illinois, 1943. 274 p.); *The House Family of the Mohawk* by Melvin R. Shaver (Ransomville, New York, 1943. 35 p.); *The Kirk and Wilson Family Tree* by Clarence K. Wilson (Cincinnati, 1943. 128 p.); *The Lee Family of Hounsfield, N. Y., and Related Families* by Walter J. Coates (North Montpelier, Vermont, 1941. 102 p.); *Alexander Mack, the Tunker, and Descendants* by Freeman Ankrum (Scottdale, Pennsylvania, 1943. 352 p.); *Daniel McMillan History and Genealogy* by the MacMillan Family Association (Chicago, 1940. 119 p.); *George Wood Platt and His Descendants* by Emilie L. Platt (1943. 24 p.); *Biographical Sketches of Caesar Rodney (the Signer), Thomas Rodney and Caesar A. Rodney* by George H. Ryden (Dover, Delaware, 1943. 23 p.); *The Rogers Family* by Corinne R. Guyton (Blue Mountain, Mississippi, 1942. 49 p.); *The Sarvis-Ickes Genealogy* by Roscoe J. Sarvis (Aberdeen, South Dakota, 1943. 30 p.); *Among the Ancestors of Sturges Belsterling Schley* by Charles S. Belsterling (New York, 1943. 142 p.); *A Genealogy of the Scherer-Sherer Family* by Floyd Haight (Dearborn, Michigan, 1937. 27 p.); *A History of the Somers Mansion* by Herbert N. Moffett and Lewis D. Cook (Somers Point, New Jersey, 1942. 21 p.); *Hiram Southworth, His Ancestors and Descendants* by G. C. Southworth (Ann Arbor, Michigan, 1943. 150 p.); *The Van Voorhees Association at Its Tenth Anniversary, 1932-1942* (New Brunswick, New Jersey, 1942. 83 p.); *Wilson-DeLong, A Study in the Early Americanization of a Typical American Family* by Laurence L. Wilson (1938. 15 p.); *The Witt Genealogy* by Frank W. Balcomb (Peabody, Massachusetts, 1943. 40 p.); *Genealogy of the Wood Family and Allied Lines* by George E.

Wood (Schenectady, New York, 1942. 19 p.); and *A Record of a Family Who "Carry On"* by Fanny J. Landes (LaGrange, Illinois, 1942. 23 p.).

Source material of interest to genealogists is included in a number of publications received during the last of quarter of 1943. Volume 11 of the *Territorial Papers of the United States*, compiled by Clarence E. Carter (Washington, 1943. 1,372 p.), contains the names of many settlers of Michigan Territory, in lists of voters, taxpayers, petitioners, and jurors for the years from 1820 to 1829. Similar lists for early Maryland are in a *Calendar of Maryland State Papers, No. 1: The Black Book* (1943. 297 p.). Names of some early Quaker settlers of Indiana are listed in the *Proceedings of the Celebration of the Establishment of Whitewater Monthly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends* (Richmond, Indiana, 1909. 212 p.). The *History of Gwinnett County, Georgia* by James C. Flanigan (Hapeville, Georgia, 1943. 446 p.) includes names of heads of families listed in the census of 1820, those who drew lots for land, and the owners of slaves. Holders of land grants and soldiers of 1776 and of 1812 are listed in *Sussex County: A Tale of Three Centuries* compiled by the Virginia Writers' Program (Richmond, Virginia, 1942. 324 p.); and lists of soldiers appear in *Clarke County, a Daughter of Frederick* by Rose M. E. MacDonald (Berryville, Virginia, 1943. 63 p.) and in *Melton's History of Cooper County, Missouri* by E. J. Melton (Columbia, Missouri, 1937. 584 p.).

Among vital records added to the society's local history collection are: volume 3 of *Georgetown, Maine, Vital Records* (Auburn, Maine, 1943. 93 p.); *Conway, Massachusetts, Vital Records* (Boston, 1943. 276 p.); and *Marriages in New Lebanon, New York* copied by Elmer I. Shepard (Williamstown, Massachusetts, 1943. 49 p.). Other additions to this collection include: B. L. Wick, *In the Footsteps of the Early Settlers in and about LeGrand, Iowa* (Cedar Rapids, Iowa, 1943. 32 p.); Kathryn W. Ryan and Howell S. Vincent, *Narrative History of Sutton, New Hampshire* (1934. 18 p.); and Naomi S. Guibord, *A Glimpse of the Early History of Rupert, Vermont* (West Rupert, Vermont. 20 p.).

L. M. F.

News and Comment

REplete with practical and stimulating suggestions for curators of historical museums is an article on "Modern Developments in History Museums" by Clifford P. Wilson in the *British Columbia Historical Quarterly* for October. The writer draws upon his own experience as director of the museum of the Hudson's Bay Company in Winnipeg to illustrate many of his points. He calls attention to the problems arising out of the fact that "The museum of to-day exists in a world where public appreciation of the art of display has been brought to the highest level." Museums must compete, writes Mr. Wilson, with "store-windows where every trick of lighting, colour and arrangement has been brought into play." After gazing at commercial displays, he asserts, people "are going to find most museum exhibits pretty uninspiring by comparison." In order to attract visitors the "museist has to learn something of the tricks of the trade," Mr. Wilson believes. Some of the tricks of showmanship, lighting, labelling, selection, arrangement, and co-operation with schools that he has utilized at Winnipeg and elsewhere are described by the writer.

The Judgment of History on American Business is the title of a stimulating address presented by Stanley Pargellis before the American branch of the Newcomen Society at Chicago on November 16 and now published as a pamphlet (1943. 24 p.). Dr. Pargellis, who as librarian of the Newberry Library of Chicago has recently taken over the archives of two railroads, appeals to corporation executives to "place confidence in historians" if they would "correct the impression that corporations are afraid to have a true history of their past written." By refusing to allow the historian to get into the records of a corporation, many an executive has given the impression "that the company has something to hide." Dr. Pargellis proposes, "therefore, that corporation executives consider seriously the making available to historians of documents in their possession which are no longer alive."

Professors W. F. Cottrell and H. C. Montgomery of Miami University have compiled a useful "Glossary of Railroad Terms" which is published in the October issue of *American Speech*. It is based upon less complete lists that have appeared in scattered sources.

A discussion of the "Present Status and Problems of State and Local War History Activity" was the feature of a dinner session that opened the third annual meeting of the American Association for State and Local History, held at Princeton, New Jersey, on November 16 and 17. The discussion was led by Dr. Lester J. Cappon of the University of Virginia. The dinner was followed by a joint meeting with the Society of American Archivists, at which papers on "Problems of Archival and Historical Agencies" were presented by Miss Margaret Norton of the Illinois State Library, James F. Kenney of the Public Archives of Canada, and others. The sessions held on the second day were devoted to discussions of a program for "Publicizing American History" and to the "War and Postwar Problems and Plans of State and Local Historical Societies."

A directory of twenty-five "North American Folklore Societies," compiled by Wayland D. Hand, appears in the *Journal of American Folklore* for July-September. Descriptive sketches and notes on publications are provided for most of the societies named.

In view of Thomas Jefferson's concern with and contributions to agriculture, it is fitting that the department of agriculture should commemorate the two-hundredth anniversary of his birth with a small volume entitled *Jefferson and Agriculture* (1943. 92 p.). It has been compiled and edited by Everett E. Edwards and issued as number 7 of the department's *Agricultural History Series*. Most of the work is composed of selections from Jefferson's writings. They have been ably chosen, are well arranged with brief introductory remarks, and are fully annotated. Speeches by Vice-president Henry A. Wallace and M. L. Wilson on Jefferson as a farmer, a brief bibliography, and an index also are included. The work is one of the best issued in the *Agricultural History Series*.

M. E. J.

Teachers of American history will find some useful suggestions in Philip D. Jordan's notes on the "Social Studies and the Sound Film," which appear in the "Teacher's Section" of the *Mississippi Valley Historical Review* for December. Dr. Jordan reports that the "Educational Film Library Association, Inc., of New York City, was organized in 1943 for the purpose of promoting the wider use of motion pictures in educational programs," and he lists a number of useful bibliographies of available films that are now in print. He also presents a list of sound films depicting various episodes in American history that are appropriate for

classroom use. In the same issue of the *Review*, Edward Everett Dale presents his "Memories of Frederick Jackson Turner," quoting extensively from Turner's letters.

To supply teachers with material on state and local history, the State Historical Society of Wisconsin is issuing multigraphed pamphlets prepared by Miss Marvel Ings, assistant curator of the society's museum. They appear under the title *Our Own Wisconsin: A Teacher's Manual in Wisconsin History*. Although some are undated, they seem to have been issued in 1943. Material is provided on such subjects as the geology of Wisconsin, its Indian inhabitants, explorers and missionaries, pioneer life, the fur trade, and log schools. Miss Ings also has drawn up an "Outline for Study Units," a "Book List for Teachers," and a list of "Wisconsin Books for Boys and Girls." For teachers who can take their classes to Madison, Miss Ings also has prepared a guide to the historical museum, in which she lists museum items in groups for the "social study units of grades two through six," with "central themes correlated with the state course of study."

A useful guide for teachers and students in one Midwestern state has been made available by the Illinois State Historical Society in the form of a *Handbook of Illinois History* prepared by Paul M. Angle and Richard L. Beyer (Springfield, 1943. 109 p.). Eleven topics are discussed both "in general" and "in Illinois," and each discussion is followed by a list of bibliographical references.

Under the title "When Two Cultures Meet," Frank G. Nelson presents, in the winter number of *Common Ground*, a discerning analysis of one phase of Norwegian-American relations. He poses the "question as to what elements in our national culture are peculiarly and uniquely Norwegian in origin," but he is forced to conclude that "the Norwegian immigrants of the last century and their descendants have left amazingly few external and visible marks on American life." This is true, Mr. Nelson believes, largely because of the "striking similarity between modern Norwegian and modern American living." The writer points out certain interrelations, however, between the labor and women's rights movements in Norway and the United States, and he presents some interesting illustrations of literary relationships in the two countries. He notes, for example, that Knut Hamsun's sojourn in Minnesota and the Northwest had a distinct influence on his style; and he describes Bjørnstjerne Bjørnson's

"whirlwind lecture tour of the Norwegian settlements of the West," in the course of which he took occasion to "express his opinion of his audiences in a famous post card sent from Albert Lea, Minnesota." As outstanding examples of contributions to American culture made through the medium of Norwegian-American educational institutions, Mr. Nelson mentions "F. Melius Christiansen and his St. Olaf's choir in the field of choral singing, and the late O. E. Rølvaag, also of St. Olaf's College, in literature."

Although the American tours of the Norwegian violinist are described in Mortimer Smith's *Life of Ole Bull* (New York, 1943), no mention is made of the concerts given in St. Paul and other points in the Northwest in the 1850's. Mr. Smith does record that in 1852-53, with a troupe that included the child prodigy, Adelina Patti, Bull traveled "from the Canadian border to New Orleans and from the eastern seaboard to the Mississippi." He undertook the tour in order to raise money for his Oleana colony, where he hoped to open up opportunities for Norwegian immigrants. Considerable attention is given to Bull's Wisconsin visits, which arose out of his marriage late in life to Sara Thorp of Madison. His friendship for Rasmus B. Anderson and other Middle Westerners also is mentioned.

Some "Problems of Polish American History Writing" are defined by Mieczyslaw Haiman in an article (8 p.) which has been reprinted from the *Quarterly Bulletin* of the Polish Institute of Arts and Sciences in America for January, 1943. The writer takes occasion to "examine briefly what different national groups in this country are doing" to record their history and preserve their cultural resources. Special mention is made of the Norwegians and the Norwegian-American Historical Association with headquarters at Northfield, which is described as "probably one of the most active historical societies in the country."

Much of the space in the July number of the *North Dakota Historical Quarterly* is devoted to "A Short History of the Teton-Dakota" by Scudder Mekeel. In discussing these western Sioux, the author presents a mass of information about their relations with the tribes farther east in Minnesota; he tells of the explorers of the French, British, and American periods who reached the Dakota area by way of Minnesota; he mentions many traders and Indian agents, including Major Taliaferro; and he touches upon the Sioux War of 1862. An excellent map reveals at a glance

the "Distribution of the Dakota Tribes," reflects the westward movement of the Teton Sioux, and depicts the migrations of other bands in Minnesota and elsewhere.

A voluminously illustrated study of *The Crafts of the Ojibwa (Chippewa)*, by Carrie A. Lyford, has been published by the education division of the office of Indian affairs as number 5 of its *Indian Handcrafts* series (216 p.). Sections are devoted to lodges and food, as well as to crafts that involve artistic expression. More than fifty plates are used to illustrate designs employed for various types of decoration, and the methods used in weaving, netting, quill work, bead work, the making of birchbark articles, and the like are explained.

A booklet recently published by Harry C. Hill bears the title *A Dictionary of the Chippewa Indian Language*, though it contains nothing more than a vocabulary of about four hundred words, which are listed with their English translations. They are said to have been drawn "from a manuscript written about one hundred years ago and never before printed."

Under the title "The Last Indian War, 1890-91 — A Study of Newspaper Jingoism," Elmo Scott Watson discusses, in the *Journalism Quarterly* for September, the reaction of the press to the Sioux difficulties in North and South Dakota in the early 1890's. Although the excitement centering about the ghost dance "has been variously called an 'uprising,' an 'outbreak' and a 'war,'" writes Professor Watson, "it was none of these — except in the columns of the contemporary press."

A document the original of which is in the handwriting of Claude Delisle, in which the French cartographer lists the sources for his map of 1703, is presented with detailed annotations by Jean Delanglez under the title "The Sources of the Delisle Map of America, 1703," in the "Documents" section of *Mid-America* for October. Father Delanglez finds in this list new evidence that the map of 1703 was the work of Claude Delisle and not of his son Guillaume, whose name appears in the title. The importance of the map and of the present document for students of Mississippi Valley history is stressed by Father Delanglez, who notes that the map "embodies the first scientific survey of the Mississippi River from its mouth to the Falls of St. Anthony." The original document was found in the archives of the French hydrographic service; it has never before been published.

An editorial on current "Midwest Centennials" of special interest in connection with Catholic church history is contributed by Jerome V. Jacobsen to the January number of *Mid-America*. He calls attention to the fact that the dioceses of Milwaukee, Chicago, and Little Rock were established between 1843 and 1845, and he notes some of the historical publications that have resulted from centennial observances.

In an article on "The Invention of the Western Steamboat," appearing in the *Journal of Economic History* for November, Louis C. Hunter reminds his readers "that within five years of his initial success on the Hudson with the *Clermont*, Fulton, in association with Livingston, Roosevelt, and others, introduced steam navigation on the Mississippi-Ohio river system." He notes, however, that "Fulton's claims to honor" have been challenged by Henry Shreve, who has gained a reputation as the "father of western steamboating." Most of Mr. Hunter's discussion is devoted to Shreve's contributions, though he gives some attention also to the inventions of Major Stephen H. Long.

The interest of "packet boat cover collectors" in the upper Mississippi steamboats that carried mail has led to the publication, in *Stamps: A Weekly Magazine of Philately* for October 9, of a brief article on the "Galena, Dubuque, Dunleith and Minnesota Packet Co." by J. W. Jones. The author asserts that he has compiled a list of "about 325 vessels, all in the upper river trade." In the present account, he gives special notice to the activities of Captain Daniel Smith Harris, publishing his likeness and a picture of one of his steamboats, the "War Eagle."

Plans for marking the centennial of the Maryland Historical Society, which was organized at Baltimore on January 27, 1844, are announced in the *Maryland History Notes* for November. Among other things, the society expects to issue a booklet containing "both a history of the Society and a guide to the collections."

Many of the comments on the "Bread of Our Forefathers" made by Felix Reichmann in the *Historical Review of Berks County* for October apply to the pioneers of the Middle West as well as to those of the Pennsylvania German counties. The writer describes the types of flour used, the methods of mixing dough, the primitive bake ovens, and the utensils used both for baking and serving bread. Another article of more than local interest in the same issue of the *Review* is Morton L. Montgomery's description of "Boyhood Sports in Reading in the Fifties."

Emphasis has been given to social and economic developments in Philip D. Jordan's contribution to the six-volume *History of the State of Ohio*, which is being published by the Ohio State Archaeological and Historical Society. It constitutes volume 5 of the series and appears under the title *Ohio Comes of Age, 1873-1900* (Columbus, 1943. 550 p.). Chapter headings such as "The Farmer and His Land," "The Rise of the City," "The Pattern of Life," and "Literature and the Arts" reflect the author's concern for what the editor of the series, Dr. Carl Wittke, describes as the "by-ways of American social and intellectual history."

Although a "Letter of Dr. John Marsh to Hon. Lewis Cass," which is published in the *California Historical Quarterly* for December, was written in 1846 from the Pacific coast, it passed between correspondents who a quarter of a century earlier had been identified with Fort Snelling and the frontier Northwest. As teacher and Indian agent, Marsh lived at the Minnesota fort in the early 1820's, and later through the influence of Cass he joined the agency at Prairie du Chien. In the present letter Dr. Marsh reminds Cass that "but for your influence [I] would probably now have been administering pills in some quiet Yankee village."

A convenient compilation by Susie Webb Wright of *Some Historic Markers in Iowa* (1943. 135 p.) has been published by the State Historical Society of Iowa as number 8 of its *Iowa Monograph Series*. The markers are arranged alphabetically by communities; in each case the complete text is printed, the date of erection is given, and some information about the event or individual commemorated is presented. A detailed index adds to the usefulness of the work.

A valuable contribution to the recorded history of higher education in the Middle West is a *History of the Iowa State College of Agriculture and Mechanic Arts* by Earle D. Ross (Ames, Iowa, 1942. 451 p.). Professor Ross carries the story from the founding of the school at Ames as an agricultural college and its development as a land-grant college, through a period of expanding curriculum and the First World War to 1940.

The career of "Nicolas Boilvin, Indian Agent" at Prairie du Chien from 1808 to 1826, is the subject of a detailed article by P. L. Scanlan in the *Wisconsin Magazine of History* for December. Dr. Scanlan bases much of his discussion upon a collection of letters that he discovered in the archives of the war department. Many of the Indians over whom Boilvin

exercised jurisdiction came from the Minnesota country, and many of the events in which he figured were of significance in the history of Minnesota as well as of Wisconsin.

In an article on "The La Loche Brigade," appearing in the *Beaver* for December, John Peter Turner gives a vivid picture of the voyageurs who journeyed northward from the Red River settlements in the 1830's. The author describes in detail the "long water highway from Fort Garry to Methye Lake" and the "twelve-mile foothpath beyond" that was known as the Portage la Loche. Among the illustrations are several excellent pictures of York boats on northern waters.

GENERAL MINNESOTA ITEMS

"It has often seemed to me, as a writer of fiction, that we have been rather shy of Minnesota subjects," writes Margaret Culkin Banning in discussing the possibilities for "Minnesota Stories" in the December issue of *Northwest Life*. What has been published in the field of fiction with a Minnesota background, according to Mrs. Banning, has "only scratched the surface." For political, economic, or social novels, "the facts are available, in history, in family records, in tales," and "the settings are capable of restoration," the writer asserts. She finds "fit meat for fiction, long or short, romantic or realistic" in many phases of the state's history.

A series of radio scripts dramatizing aspects of life in the Northwest are being prepared by Phillip S. Gelb of Minneapolis, who has received a regional writing fellowship from the University of Minnesota under a grant from the Rockefeller Foundation. A similar fellowship has been granted to Mr. Earl V. Chapin of Warroad, who plans to write a history of the Northwest Angle. It will be recalled that Mr. Chapin contributed an article on "The Early History of the Roseau Valley" to the issue of this magazine for December, 1943.

A History of the Minnesota Association of Deans of Women, from its founding on April 9, 1925, to its 1943 meeting, has been issued in multi-graphed form by the association (1943. 54 p.). It consists largely of sketches prepared by past presidents of the association, describing its activities during their terms of office. There are also a list of officers, an account of the organization of the association, and lists of members in 1925 and 1943.

Dr. Evadene Burris Swanson is the author of a "Biographical Sketch of Charles Fremont Dight, M.D.," which appears in number 1 of the *Bulletins* of the Dight Institute of the University of Minnesota (1943. 22 p.). The sketch is particularly valuable for its survey of Dight's "Activities in Minnesota in the Field of Eugenics." Mrs. Swanson drew much of the material for the present account from the Dight Papers, which are now owned by the Minnesota Historical Society. A description of this collection, also by Mrs. Swanson, appears elsewhere in this issue of *Minnesota History*. With her sketch in the *Bulletin* are a "Chronology" of Dight's career, a bibliography of his published writings, and a "Report on the Organization and Aims of the Dight Institute" by its director, Dr. Clarence P. Oliver.

Students of cultural history will be interested in Jean L. Holte's article on "The County Library in Minnesota," which appears in *Minnesota Libraries* for December, for it deals with a local cultural development that had its origin in the early years of the present century. In the first section of her survey, the author carries the story of county libraries from 1904, when library benefits were extended by law to take in areas beyond city limits, to 1938. A second section is devoted to the years from 1938 to 1942, a period of rapid progress, according to the writer.

Minnesota is designated as "Florida's Rival" in the title to an article by Helen Clapesattle appearing in the October number of *Northwest Life*. It deals with the era when this section of the Northwest was known far and wide as one of America's "health resorts, an outstanding contender with Florida for the position of *the* American sanatorium for sufferers from tuberculosis." Among those who went to Minnesota in search of health were Edward Eggleston and Henry David Thoreau, and the list of those who extolled the virtues of the climate included Horace Greeley. The stories circulated, writes Miss Clapesattle, served as "part of the state's effort to attract settlers," and helped to overcome the "notion that it was a land of hyperborean climate, where during interminable winters the thermometer seldom rose above zero." The writer tells of the mineral springs that were exploited in catering to invalids, notably the Chalybeate Springs of St. Anthony; and she mentions some of the resorts and hotels that served both invalids and tourists.

A wealth of information about the Grand Portage area and the North Shore of Lake Superior is to be found in the hearings held at Duluth on

September 9, 1941, before a subcommittee of the Senate committee on Indian affairs on the proposed lake shore route of Highway No. 61. It consists of a large number of letters, documents, stenographic reports, and the like, published as part 39 of the *Survey of Conditions of the Indians in the United States* (p. 22329-22541). Particularly significant from the point of view of the historian are the materials in this record relating to the recent history of Grand Portage.

Experiences as a member of the St. Paul office force and later of the advertising staff of the Chicago Great Western Railroad from 1892 to 1909 are recalled by Sigmund Greve in an article entitled "Buccaneering Days," in the *Railroad Magazine* for November. Mr. Greve served with the road's car service department; he later had charge of freight claims; and eventually he went into advertising work. He reports that before the Interstate Commerce Commission ruled that the railroads "would have to pay cash for all advertising, for all telephone service, and for various other favors we had hitherto obtained by barter," he had become a past master at "handing out mileage books."

Something of the background of the Quetico-Superior Forest along Minnesota's northern boundary is outlined by Ernest C. Oberholtz in the *New Republic* for November 22. He reviews the story of the state and national forests in the area and tells of the opposition that has been encountered in the attempt to establish a "single continuous forest . . . reaching along the boundary from Rainy Lake east to Lake Superior and encompassing the border waters and their tributaries in both" Minnesota and Canada.

As the third in a series of articles dealing with "Conservation Pioneers of Minnesota," the *Conservation Volunteer* for November-December publishes Evadene B. Swanson's sketch of "Hallock, Minnesota Booster." She gives special emphasis to the Minnesota section in the *Sportsman's Gazetteer and General Guide* published by Charles Hallock in 1877, and she tells of the founding of the Kittson County village that bears his name. The article serves as a convenient and brief survey of the career of a sportsman and naturalist who not only gave wide publicity to Minnesota's possibilities as a hunting resort, but worked for the conservation of its resources. To the same issue of the *Volunteer* Elizabeth Bachmann contributes an informing account of "Minnesota Log Marks." It is based in large measure upon records preserved in the archives of the Minnesota

surveyor general of logs and lumber. Drawings of marks used by Minnesota lumber firms to identify their logs illustrate the article.

Dr. Lewis Beeson's survey of "Pioneer Minnesota Journalism," which appeared in the September issue of the *Minnesota Journal of Education* (see *ante*, 24:351), has been followed in subsequent numbers by brief sketches of some of the editors whose contributions were discussed. Included are John H. Stevens in the October issue, Jane Grey Swisshelm in November, and William A. Hotchkiss in December. Each sketch is accompanied by a portrait.

Historical as well as biographical information is presented by George L. Peterson in a series of sketches of the "editors and publishers of Minnesota's 28 daily newspapers outside Minneapolis," appearing in the *Minneapolis Morning Tribune* from November 29 to January 1. Many of Mr. Peterson's articles include historical reviews of the newspapers concerned.

Some of Minnesota's industrial leaders and their families are the subjects of articles by Evelyn Burke in recent issues of *Northwest Life*. After beginning with the "Heffelfinger and Peavey Families" in the October number, she continues with the T. B. Walker family in November and the John S. Pillsbury family in December. Genealogical charts accompany each article.

WAR HISTORY ACTIVITIES

"The War Records Program of the Illinois War Council" is the subject of an article by its historian, Stanley Erikson, in *Illinois Libraries* for October. He explains that the "war records program is intended to facilitate the writing of an authentic and complete history of Illinois' war contribution." The Chicago metropolitan region is working out a program separate from the state council, and local war councils are active throughout the state. Among the organizations that are co-operating with the state war council in collecting and preserving material, Mr. Erikson reports, are colleges and universities, public libraries, and local historical societies. A division of war records and research exists for the purpose of preserving the records of the Illinois War Council and the local councils subject to its jurisdiction. The functions described by Mr. Erikson include the publication of a monthly periodical, *Illinois Mobilizes*, and the compilation of a card index of newspaper items relating to wartime activities.

The Indiana War History Commission, consisting of thirty-eight members, has been established under a law passed by the 1943 legislature. It will supervise the writing of a history of Indiana's participation in the Second World War, according to the *Indiana History Bulletin* for December. Annual reports are to be made to the governor on bond purchases, economic changes, agricultural and industrial developments, governmental changes, and similar matters. Another state that has recently inaugurated a war history program is New Jersey, where a war records commission of twenty-seven members has been appointed by the governor.

As a record of one of the few army training centers to be established in Minnesota, Captain Robert M. Heilbrun's brief account of "Camp Ripley as a Federal Camp" will be useful to future students of the state's role in the war effort. The narrative is made up of four multigraphed pages (1943).

The results of a community planning survey conducted at Albert Lea are presented in a pamphlet entitled *A Procedure for Community Post-War Planning* (59 p.), recently issued by the Chamber of Commerce of the United States. The report was prepared by a national research committee, on which several Minnesotans served.

The organization of the Fillmore County War History Committee is announced in the *Tri-County Record* of Rushford for November 18. Mr. George A. Haven of Chatfield is the chairman. Newly appointed chairmen of war history committees in other parts of the state include Dr. Paul Hagen of Crookston for Polk County and Mr. H. W. Reineke of Clarissa for Todd County.

Letters from twenty-nine men and women in the armed services appear in the Christmas number of *Hi-Soldier*, a wartime publication of the Minnesota Mutual Life Insurance Company of St. Paul. Among them are letters from North Africa, the Pacific area, and camps in various states. More than a hundred former employees of this company are now in the armed services.

Civilian defense activities in Duluth in 1943 are reviewed in the December-January issue of *Duluth's Civilian Defense News*. Included is a survey of the work accomplished by the Duluth War History Committee, of which Dr. Richard Bardon is chairman. According to this report, the records collected by the committee are preserved in the Duluth Public

Library, where material relating to about seven thousand men and women in the armed services is now on file.

The appointment of H. W. Reineke of Iona as chairman of the Todd County War History Committee is announced in the *Long Prairie Leader* for December 9. Types of records to be collected by the committee are enumerated.

More than fifty people attended a meeting at Winona on November 18 at which Dr. Lewis Beeson, acting superintendent of the Minnesota Historical Society, outlined the work that can be accomplished by the Winona War History Committee. He stressed particularly the importance of collecting and preserving materials that indicate what is happening in Winona in wartime.

LOCAL HISTORICAL SOCIETIES

"Every county is making history and every county should have a historical society to give it a consciousness of this history." This statement is presented as one of the "Advantages of a County Historical Society" in the *Indiana History Bulletin* for December. The writer of this note declares that "there is no county in Indiana which does not have some means and some occasion for interest in its past," and he suggests that "an organized historical group may serve as a center in which to keep alive this interest in ordinary times and to furnish leadership for productive activity in livelier times."

The annual meeting of the Marquette County Historical Society, which was held at Marquette, Michigan, on October 12, was marked by an interesting program of papers and addresses. Included on the program were papers on "Some Early Industries of Marquette County" by R. E. Brotherton and on "Foreign Language Newspapers in the Upper Peninsula" by Elizabeth Ellinson; they are published in full in the *Daily Mining Journal* of Marquette for October 15 and 16. A detailed account of the society's business meeting, appearing in the same paper for October 14, includes a report of the participation of its corresponding secretary, Mr. L. A. Chase, in the 1943 meeting of the North Shore Historical Assembly at Duluth.

Although the Carver County Historical Society is not holding meetings during the present year, its museum at Mayer is still open to the public and its collecting activities are continuing. The society is making an effort

to collect photographs of all Carver County men and women who are serving with the armed forces.

A paper on "Dufrost de la Jemmeraye, Soldier, Trader, and Explorer, 1708-1736," presented by J. P. Bertrand, president of the Thunder Bay Historical Society, under the auspices of the Cook County Historical Society at Grand Marais on November 4, appears in installments in the *Cook County News-Herald* of Grand Marais from November 11 to December 23. It makes available a detailed recital of the events in the life of an important French explorer who was identified in the early eighteenth century with both the southern and northern portions of what is now Minnesota. Mr. Bertrand tells of La Jérémaye's journey to the upper Mississippi in 1727, when he helped to establish Fort Beauharnois on Lake Pepin; and he records the story of his adventures in the upper Northwest from 1730 to 1736, while serving under his uncle, the Sieur de la Vérendrye. At the annual meeting of the Cook County society, which was held early in the fall, the Reverend Oswald Johannes was named president of the organization. The vice-president is Miss Olga Soderberg; Mrs. P. E. Allard is secretary; and Mrs. N. J. Bray is treasurer.

At the annual meeting of the Chippewa County Historical Society, which was held at Montevideo on October 4, Dr. Anna Amrud was elected president for the coming year. Among other officers chosen at the same meeting are Mrs. Fred Handeen, vice-president, Mrs. L. N. Pierce and Miss Petra Storaker, secretaries, and Mrs. Frank Starbeck, treasurer. The work of the Chippewa County War History Committee was explained by T. B. Jenks before a meeting of the society held on December 2. Plans were discussed for the placing of historical exhibits in the restored Lac qui Parle mission and in a log cabin on the local fair grounds, and committees were named to arrange them. The advantages of placing the society's file of *Minnesota History* in the public library were pointed out, and steps were taken toward putting the state historical society's magazine in circulation there.

An oil painting of an early Lindstrom hotel has been presented to the Chisago County Historical Society by Mrs. Ebba Picotte of Detroit, Michigan, according to the *Chisago County Press* of Lindstrom for November 4. Mrs. Picotte's mother, who was a pioneer resident of Lindstrom, painted the picture.

"Some Fundamentals Underlying the Work of Historical Societies" was the title of a talk presented on November 26 by Mrs. Bunn T. Willson of Rochester before the annual meeting of the Fillmore County Historical Society at Preston. She stressed the need for preserving letters and other records of importance for the study of local history, pointing out the danger of destroying them as wastepaper. An election of officers held at the meeting resulted in the choice of Mrs. P. L. Wilson of Preston as president, Mr. J. C. White of Mabel as vice-president, Mrs. Ida Johnson of Harmony as secretary, Mrs. Oscar Peterson of Harmony as treasurer, and Mrs. J. C. Mills of Preston as curator and historian.

The "Annual Report" of the Hennepin County Historical Society, covering the period from October, 1942, to October, 1943, reveals that the society's activities were marked by progress during the year. Many classes and other groups visited its museum at St. Louis Park; displays were arranged in the windows of Minneapolis business places and were sent out for the use of schools, churches, and organizations; a number of well-attended meetings were held; the society's *Bulletin* was issued regularly, and stories about its activities were published in the Minneapolis newspapers; the membership of the society approached the five-hundred mark as the year came to a close; and the society was incorporated. The bylaws adopted by the corporation appear in the *Bulletin* for October. At a meeting of the society in Minneapolis on October 20, its officers presented their annual reports and Mr. George C. Jordan, editor of the *Minneapolis Star Journal*, spoke on current events. Another evidence of activity on the part of the Hennepin County society is the publication of a four-page folder in which its history is outlined and its museum described.

The operations of a horse thief in Martin County in 1894 and 1895 are recalled in an article by Brad Richardson in the *Fairmont Daily Sentinel* for December 11. In an effort to apprehend the thief an anti-horsethief association was organized at Fairmont late in 1894, according to the writer. He reports that a cap lost by the thief in escaping from one farm has been recently added to the collections of the Martin County Historical Society.

The first issue of the *Bulletin* of the Nobles County Historical Society, consisting of three multigraphed pages and a cover, was issued in December by Mr. John P. Hoffman of Worthington, secretary of the society. It undertakes "to set up some possible goals for the future," presenting a

list of subjects that should be developed in the form of museum exhibits in an agricultural county. The value of a museum built up along the lines suggested to teachers, students, and other local groups also is stressed. The hope is expressed that the *Bulletin* "will stimulate some thought and discussion among a growing number of people in the county, and that this thought and discussion will eventually culminate in definite action." Members of the organization are "invited to think of the possibilities of our Society and its future activities" and to send their suggestions to the secretary or the president. Apparently the Nobles County society intends to issue its *Bulletin* each month. If the standards set up by the first number are maintained in later issues, this publication will gain for the society an enviable reputation among local historical organizations in Minnesota. The advantages of a local historical museum illustrating the development of "industries and occupations and the manner of life" of the people are set forth by Mr. Hoffman in the *Worthington Daily Globe* for December 11.

The museum of the Nicollet County Historical Society has been removed from the basement of the First National Bank to the Konsbruck Building in St. Peter. The collections are being catalogued and arranged by Mrs. M. E. Stone and Miss Hattie Johnson. Plans are being made for an open house when the arrangement of the museum has been completed. Mr. H. N. Benson is the president of the society, Dr. G. E. Larson is its vice-president, and Miss Johnson is the secretary-treasurer.

At a meeting of the Olmsted County board at Rochester on October 12, the sum of a thousand dollars was appropriated for the work of the Olmsted County Historical Society. A committee of the society, headed by its president, Mrs. B. T. Willson, explained the work of the organization to the members of the board. Dr. Lewis Beeson, acting superintendent of the Minnesota Historical Society, spoke on the value of local historical societies and their museums before the annual meeting of the Olmsted County society on October 26. In her annual report, Mrs. Willson thanked the city and the county for their support of the society and revealed that some eight thousand people viewed its museum in the past year.

Two pioneer Rice County families and industries were represented on the program of the annual meeting of the Rice County Historical Society, which was held at Faribault on October 20. Early "Brickmaking in Faribault" was described by Bert Kaul, whose father, Eberhard Kaul, emi-

grated from Germany in 1865 and settled in Faribault, continuing there his trade as a brickmaker. The construction and contracting business in the city was recalled by Benson Brown, whose family settled in Rice County in 1870. Extracts from Mr. Kaul's talk appear in the *Faribault Daily News* for October 21. Mr. F. E. Jenkins of Northfield was re-elected president of the society at the meeting. Other officers chosen include Mrs. Howard Bratton of Faribault, vice-president, Miss Mabel Peirce of Faribault and Miss Lana Babcock of Northfield, secretaries, and Mr. Donald Scott of Faribault, treasurer.

The election of Dr. Richard Bardon as president of the St. Louis County Historical Society, to succeed the late Otto Wieland, was confirmed at the society's annual meeting, held at Duluth on November 16 (see *ante*, 24: 380). Among other officers elected were J. H. Hearing and J. P. Vaughan, vice-presidents, J. D. Mahoney, treasurer, and Miss Cora Colbrath, secretary. Mr. Fred Greve, a student in the Duluth State Teachers College, was appointed research fellow; he is in the society's office in Tweed Hall every afternoon.

The Sibley County Historical Society held its annual meeting at Gaylord on December 3. Plans were made for obtaining cases and installing museum exhibits.

A proposal for a building, to be erected after the war, for the housing of a local historical museum, a public library, and local offices of veterans' organizations was submitted by Mr. Herman Panzram, president of the Waseca County Historical Society, at a meeting held in Waseca on October 4.

Mrs. L. L. Manwaring was named chairman of the board of trustees of the Washington County Historical Society at a meeting held at Stillwater on October 19. Mr. E. L. Roney is vice-chairman, Mr. George Kutz is secretary, and Mr. Felix Simonet is treasurer of the board.

LOCAL HISTORY ITEMS

Articles on the early history of Blue Earth County by the Reverend Charles E. McColley, a pioneer pastor of the Mapleton Baptist Church who now resides in Cranston, Rhode Island, have been appearing in the *Blue Earth County Enterprise* of Mapleton since December 9. The series opens with a general account of the history of southern Minnesota, a sketch of

the Sioux in the Minnesota Valley, some explanation of the geography of the region, and brief notes on the earliest explorers of the Northwest. Mr. McColley also is the author of some interesting pioneer sketches which have been appearing for more than a year under the title "McColley's Column" in the *Winnebago City Enterprise*. Many of them deal with the experiences of members of his own family who settled in Faribault County before the Civil War; others relate to the adventures of his father and uncles who served in Company K of the Second Minnesota Cavalry in the Civil and Indian wars. Sketches published on October 7 and 14, for example, are localized at Fort Wadsworth in Dakota, where the company was stationed in the winter of 1865-66.

The seventy-fifth anniversary of the Mankato State Teachers College, which opened with an enrollment of twenty-seven in the autumn of 1868, was marked with appropriate ceremonies from October 6 to 8. The history and development of the college were reviewed by O. W. Snarr, president of the Moorhead State Teachers College.

The account of "Rocky Mountain Locusts in Cottonwood County," by H. O. Hendrickson, which opens in the *Cottonwood County Citizen* of Windom for September 15 (see *ante*, 24:382), continues to appear in weekly installments until December 15. Statistical tables showing the losses suffered by local farmers as a result of the grasshopper plagues are presented, relief measures are described, and the methods used in combating the pests are enumerated. An unusual item is a verse entitled "A Voice from the Grasshopper Region" by Lura A. Crapsey, whose husband lost his crops in 1875 and 1876. It appeared in contemporary newspapers and is reprinted by Mr. Hendrickson in his installment for October 20.

Biographical sketches of physicians who have lived or practiced in Dodge County continue to appear in *Minnesota Medicine*, where installments of a "History of Medicine in Dodge County" have been published each month since February, 1943 (see *ante*, 24:182, 263). The authors, Mr. James Eckman and Dr. Charles E. Bigelow, present much detailed information about the lives of local medical men.

A brief *History of the Methodist Church* at Blue Earth is presented in a pamphlet issued to commemorate the eighty-fifth anniversary of this Faribault County congregation (1943. 14 p.). The church traces its beginnings to the summer of 1856, when an itinerant pastor visited the

community and preached a sermon there; it commemorated its anniversary with special services on November 14.

For its seventy-fifth anniversary, which was marked on October 27, the First National Bank of Austin "was turned into a museum of the early days of Austin," according to a report in the *Austin Daily Herald*. In its issue for October 27 the paper presents a detailed review of the city's banking history, as well as a description of the exhibits arranged for the anniversary celebration. An extensive collection of photographs of early Austin and some interesting examples of pioneer agricultural implements were included in the display. The *Herald* reports that one of the officers of the bank, Mr. N. F. Banfield, Jr., is looking forward to the time when Austin will have its own museum, "where these and a thousand other articles of the early history can be safely housed and exhibited." If Mower County residents would undertake the organization of a local historical society, they would doubtless find a rich field for collecting awaiting them in the Austin community.

A *Plat Book of Murray County* has been published by the *Murray County Herald* of Slayton (1943. 42 p.). In addition to county and township maps and lists of local officers in 1943, it includes a brief history of the county by R. W. Terry.

An old mill built in 1857 at Troy, near Chatfield, is the subject of an article in the *Winona Republican-Herald* for October 2, which records that the structure is being demolished. It was built by Joseph and Samuel Musser, and it attracted customers from many places in southern Minnesota, including Winona. A picture of the mill accompanies the article.

A descriptive booklet about White Bear Lake, published in 1890 by A. H. S. Perkins, a local journalist, is reprinted in installments in the *White Bear Press* from November 19 to December 10. In his "Publishers Preface," Perkins announced that he was publishing the booklet of forty-eight pages to meet a "popular demand for a work of this kind, a book of reference and a guide for the thousands of strangers and visitors who seek this spot for rest and recreation during the heated months of summer." By reprinting the text, the *Press* makes available a valuable source of information for the history of the Minnesota summer resort business.

A chapter in St. Paul's theatrical history is recalled in the *St. Paul Pioneer Press* for December 26, which presents an article on the old Grand

Opera House, now the Garrick Theater. It includes an account of the opening on September 1, 1890, based upon a booklet in the Minnesota Historical Society's collection. Many of the plays presented in the theater are enumerated in this account.

The role of Darwin S. Hall in the history of Preston Lake Township and Renville County is recalled in an editorial in the *Bird Island Union* for November 18. There Hall lived on his model farm, and there he entertained many of the state's political leaders. The township gained distinction also, according to the writer of the editorial, as the home of the Kellogg School, which was "recognized by the pioneers as a school of 'advanced learning'" and attracted pupils from all parts of the county.

The sale of the buildings of the Seabury Divinity School of Faribault to a hospital is the occasion for the publication of an article on its history by T. Glenn Harrison in the *St. Paul Pioneer Press* for November 21. The school was established by the Reverend James Lloyd Breck as an Episcopal seminary in 1858; its buildings have not been used since 1932. Some pictures of the school accompany the article.

"Depression Days" in Duluth following Jay Cooke's failure and the panic of 1873 are described in an illustrated feature article by Kathryn Burnett in the *Duluth News-Tribune* for October 31. The writer calls attention to the seventieth anniversary of the financial catastrophe which nearly depopulated the new community. Some early Lutheran church services and the beginnings of church organization in Duluth are recalled in the *News-Tribune* for October 24.

Mr. Garfield Blackwood contributes a "History of Logging" in the Floodwood area to the *Pine Knot* of Cloquet for October 22. He surveys the story of lumbering operations in one section of St. Louis County from 1886 to 1900. The first logging railroad in the area was built by the C. N. Nelson Lumber Company of Cloquet in 1890, according to Mr. Blackwood.

A pamphlet entitled *Sketching Seventy-five Years Progress of the First Congregational Church, Waseca, Minnesota*, is devoted to an outline of its history from its founding in 1868 to 1943. The narrative, which is based upon church records, newspaper items, and the reminiscences of a pioneer, was prepared in 1928 by Mrs. F. A. Wood; it has been revised and brought up to date for the church's seventy-fifth anniversary.



